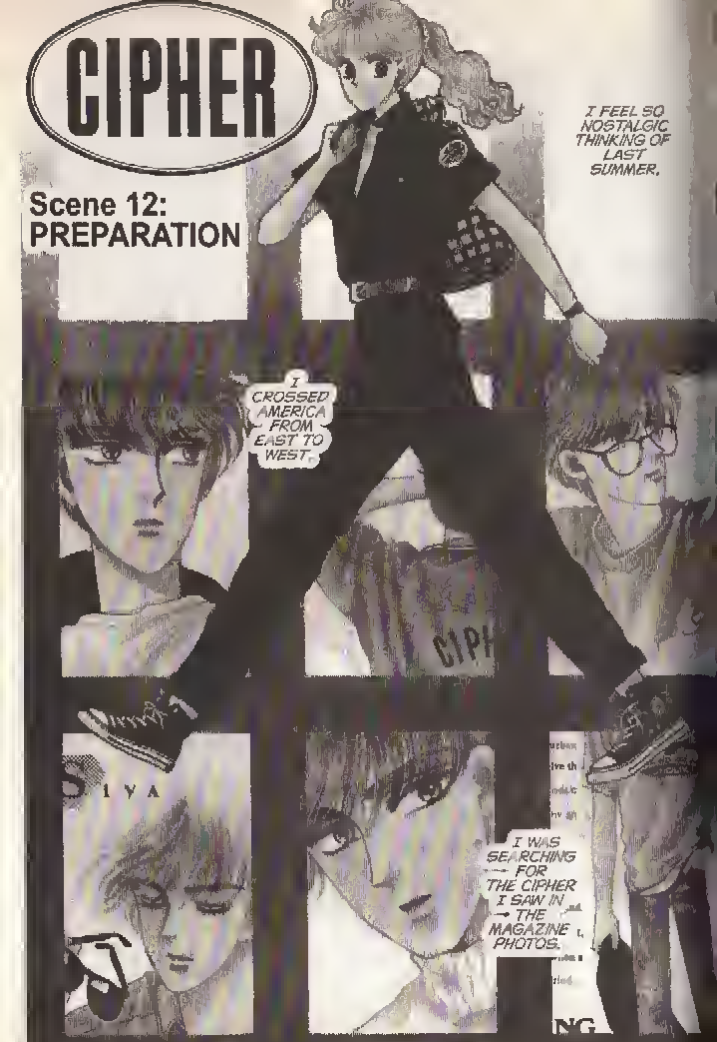
CIPHER

Scene 12: PREPARATION

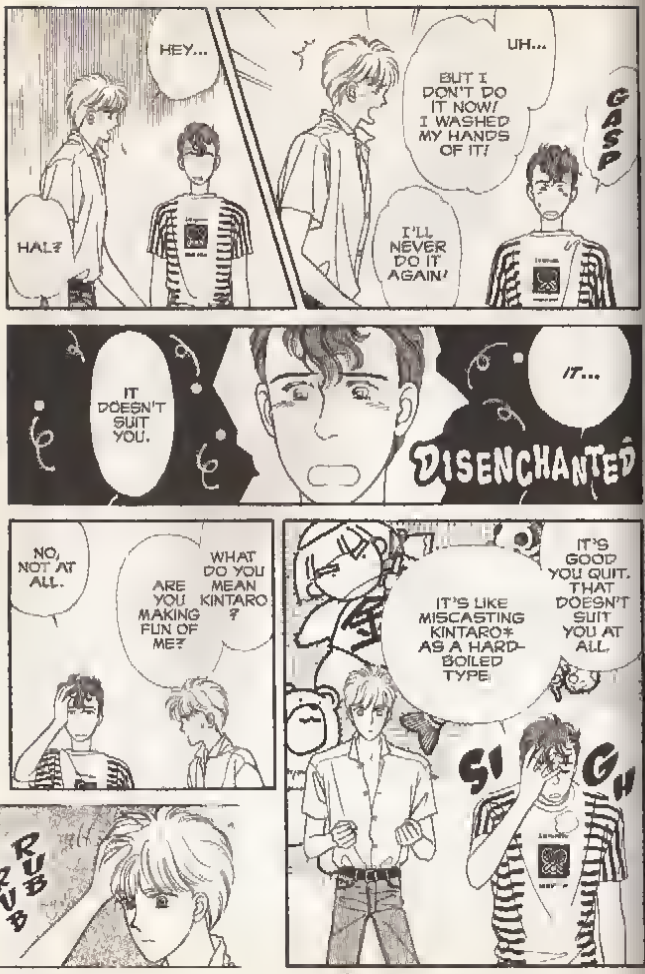

I FEEL SO NOSTALGIC THINKING OF LAST SUMMER.
I CROSSED AMERICA FROM EAST TO WEST.
I WAS SEARCHING FOR THE CIPHER I SAW IN THE MAGAZINE PHOTOS.

BGM SOUL-I SOUL "KEEP ON MOVIN' CLUB MIX

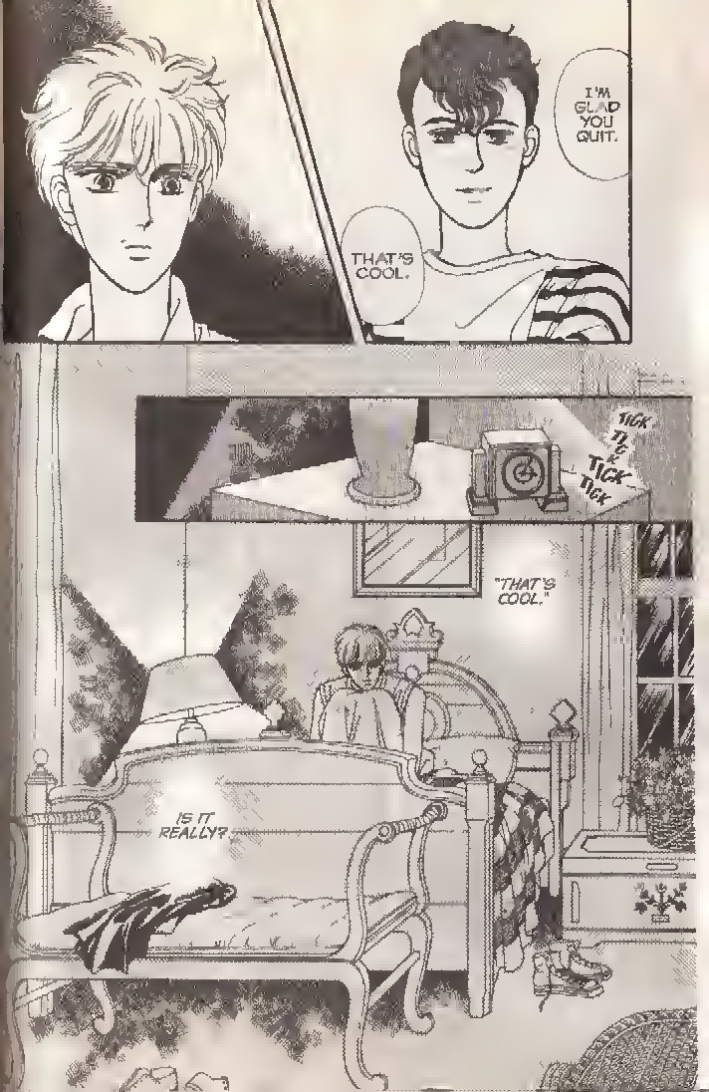
GREAT FIREWORKS!
WHOA
INCREDIBLE!
IF EVERYBODY'S THIS EXCITED THE DAY BEFORE, WHAT IS THE ACTUAL 4TH OF JULY GONNA BE LIKE?
HAL, DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO WIPE THIS UP WITH?
YEAH, GIMME TWO MINUTES.
EVERYBODY IS IN THE MOOD TO PARTY!
CREAK
HA HA HA
JUST LIKE WE ARE!

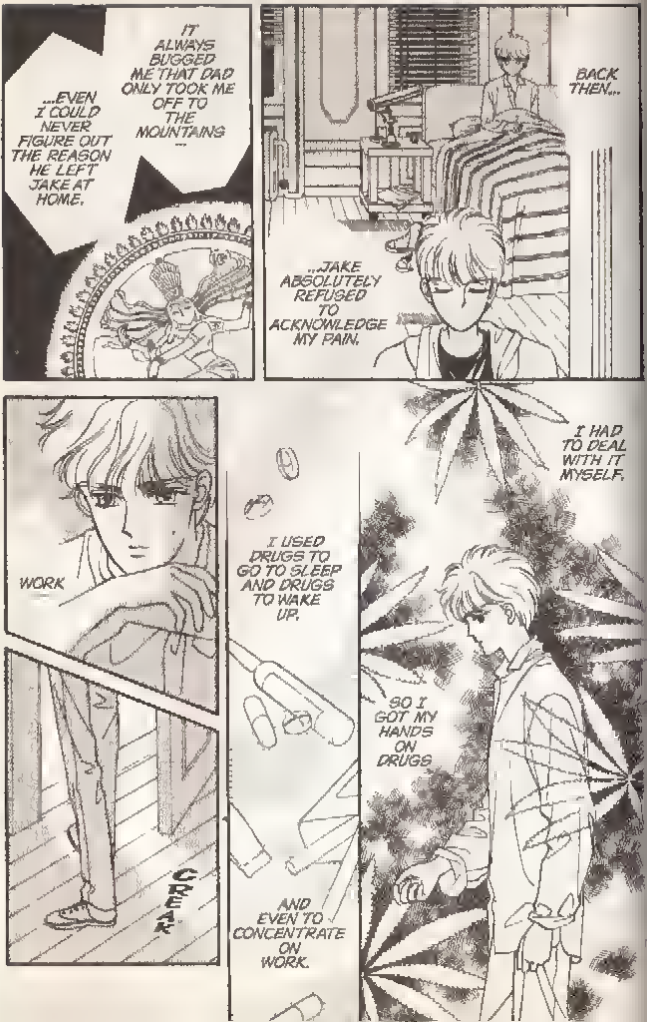
I'VE GOT CONTACT LENSES ON.
NONE OF THAT FOR ME.
OH.
HEY, ROY.
WANT SOME?
THAT'S REEFER.
That stuff is everywhere.
WHOA.
WELL, THAT'S WHY I CAME OUTSIDE!
YOU KNOW I HATE SMOKE!
OUTSIDE IS BAD, TOO!
UH...
MAN!
WHAT WAS THAT YOU WERE SAYING ABOUT CONTACTS?
... OUT HERE?
WHAT ...
... ARE YOU DOING ...

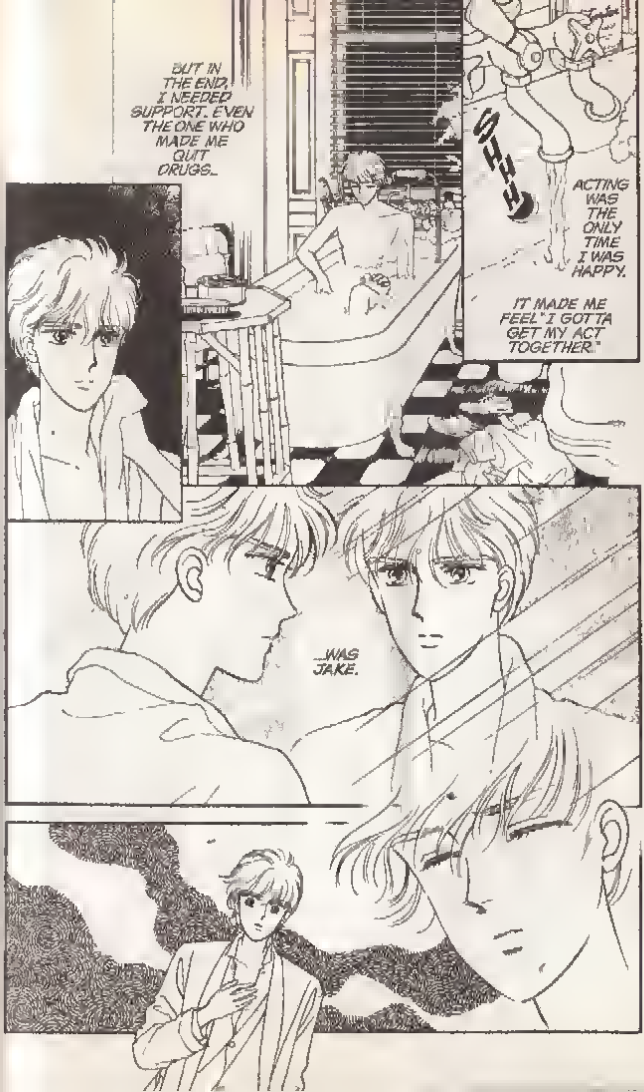
GASP
.....
BWA HA HA HA
...YOUR EYES START FEELING REALLY DRY
WHEN YOU SMOKE WEED WHILE YOU HAVE CONTACTS IN.
OH.
YOU SURE KNOW A LOT ABOUT IT
LIKE YOU HAVE EXPERI-ENCE
WELL, ABOUT THAT...
I TOLD YOU I USED TO DO DRUGS
.....
WHAM
AGH!
YOU... YOU MEAN YOU WERE SERIOUS?!



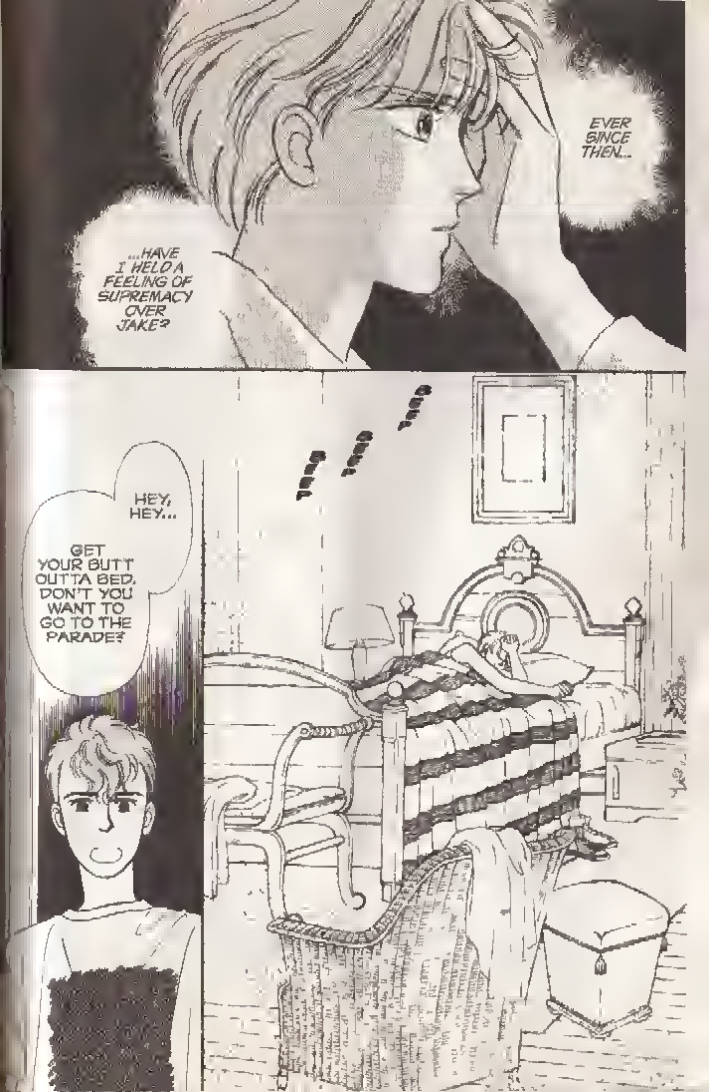
*KINTARO: A POPULAR FIGURE FROM JAPANESE FOLKLORE.


I'M GLAD YOU QUIT.
THAT'S COOL.
TICK TICK TICK
"THAT'S COOL."
IS IT REALLY?


...EVEN I COULD NEVER FIGURE OUT THE REASON HE LEFT JAKE AT HOME.
IT ALWAYS BUGGED ME THAT DAD ONLY TOOK ME OFF TO THE MOUNTAINS --
BACK THEN...
...JAKE ABSOLUTELY REFUSED TO ACKNOWLEDGE MY PAIN.
I HAD TO DEAL WITH IT MYSELF.
SO I GOT MY HANDS ON DRUGS.
I USED DRUGS TO GO TO SLEEP AND DRUGS TO WAKE UP.
AND EVEN TO CONCENTRATE ON WORK.
WORK
CREAK

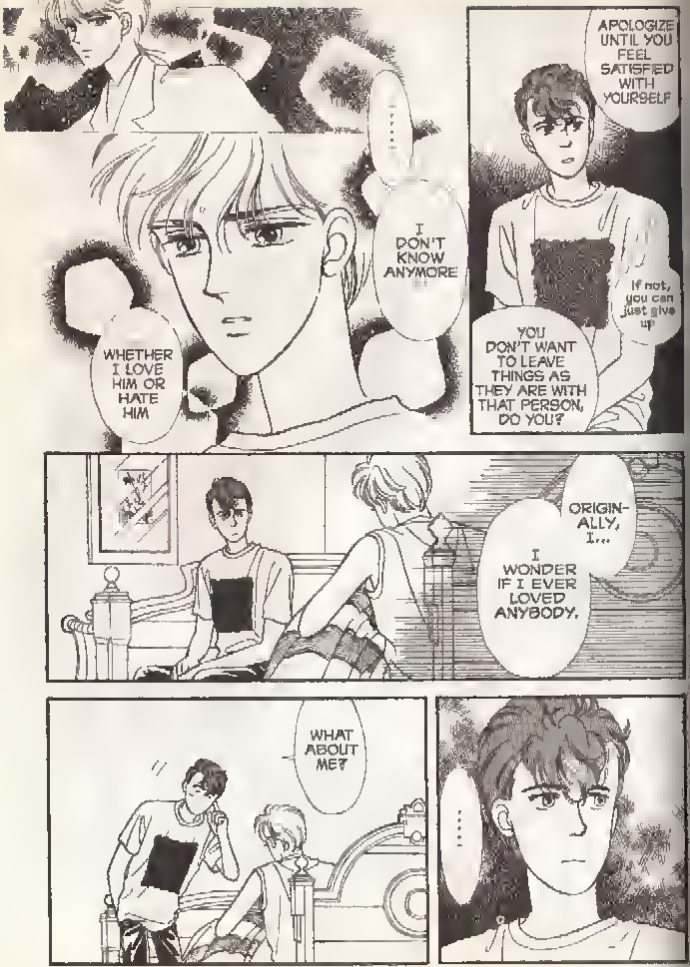

BUT IN THE END, I NEEDED SUPPORT. EVEN THE ONE WHO MADE ME QUIT DRUGS...
SIGH
ACTING WAS THE ONLY TIME I WAS HAPPY.
IT MADE ME FEEL "I GOTTA GET MY ACT TOGETHER."
...WAS JAKE.

JAKE... I HAD TO REFORM FOR JAKE.
HE LOOKED SO WEAK, SO SAD...LIKE HE WAS CRYING. I'D NEVER SEEN HIM LIKE THAT.
"JAKE WILL BE NO GOOD WITHOUT ME."
!
IT WAS THE FIRST TIME I LOOKED DOWN ON JAKE.
THAT NIGHT, IN JAKE'S DARK ROOM...
...HE SEEMED TERRIBLY SMALL.


...HAVE I HELD A FEELING OF SUPREMACY OVER JAKE?
EVER SINCE THEN...
HEY, HEY...
GET YOUR BUTT OUTTA BED. DON'T YOU WANT TO GO TO THE PARADE?

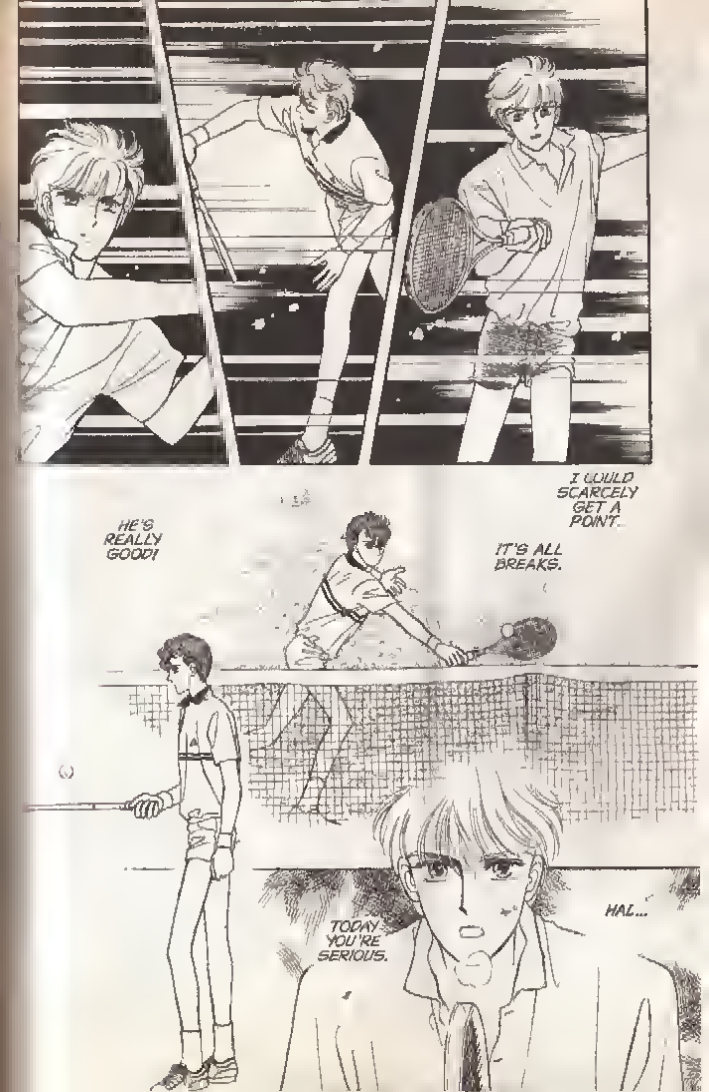
ROY?!
UGH...
EVERYONE ELSE ALREADY LEFT.
HEY, I SAID
AH...
THAT'S NOT THE PROBLEM.
WHAT'S WRONG?
WE DIDN'T DRINK THAT MUCH LAST NIGHT.
YOU MEAN ABOUT DRUGS?
WHAT KIND OF B.S. ARE YOU TALKING?
I TOTALLY BUCK.
THINKING ABOUT A BUNCH OF STUFF HAS MADE ME ALL DEPRESSED.

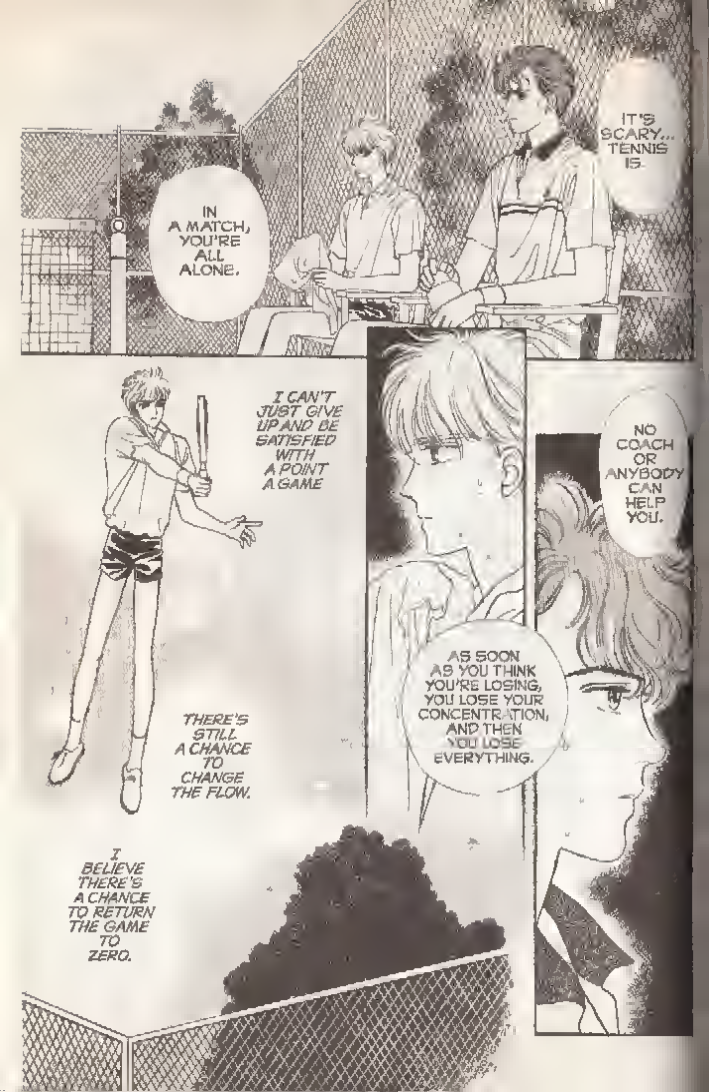
HAL..
OF COURSE IT WASN'T ON PURPOSE.
HAL, WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU'D HURT SOMEONE?
.....
I JUST HATE MYSELF
NO..
I'M EVEN AFRAID TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT IT
I TOLD A BIG LIE TO ALL MY FRIENDS
THAT'S SIMPLE, ISN'T IT?
WELL, THERE'S NOTHING ELSE TO DO, IS THERE?
.....
I'D APOLO-GIZE.


APOLOGIZE UNTIL YOU FEEL SATISFIED WITH YOURSELF
If not, you can just give up
YOU DON'T WANT TO LEAVE THINGS AS THEY ARE WITH THAT PERSON, DO YOU?
.....
I DON'T KNOW ANYMORE
WHETHER I LOVE HIM OR HATE HIM
ORIGIN-ALLY, I...
I WONDER IF I EVER LOVED ANYBODY.
WHAT ABOUT ME?
.....

But he did make the coffee.
HEY, WAIT A...!
YOU'RE CHANGING THE SUBJECT!
COMING UP!
I'D LOVE IT IF YOU MADE ME SOME COFFEE.
AGAIN?
THIS IS THE TIME WE SHOULD BE PLAYING TENNIS!
FORGET ABOUT THE PARADE! WE'RE HANGING OUT TOGETHER ALL DAY!
HUH?
GAG
ACTUALLY, I'M LIKE MCENROE.
BUT I GET STRONG WHEN IT COMES TO A MATCH.
I'VE GOT THE SAME SHAPED FACE.
TUG
That last time, I was just too tired.
DON'T WORRY. TODAY WE'LL PLAY A PROPER MATCH.
YOU'RE NOT GONNA PASS OUT ON ME AGAIN, ARE YOU?

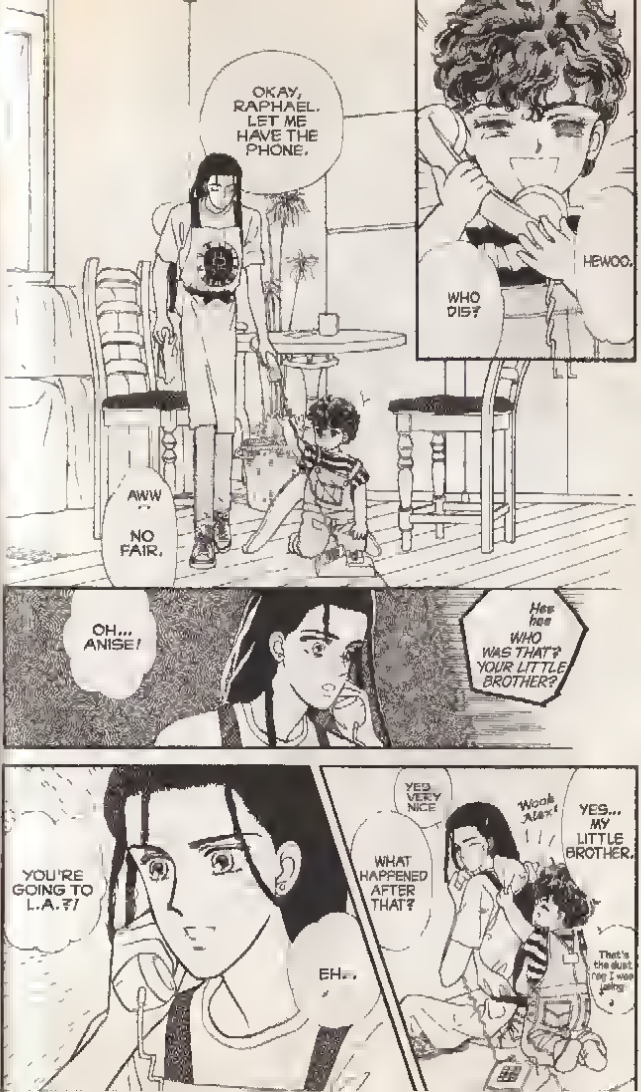
NO THANKS!
YOU'LL GET STRONGER TOO IF YOU MAKE YOUR FACE LIKE THAT
SMIRK
OKAY, IT'S YOUR LOSS
PWOCK
WITH A SERVE LIKE THAT...
I COULDN'T EVEN MOVE A STEP.
FIFTEEN LOVE.

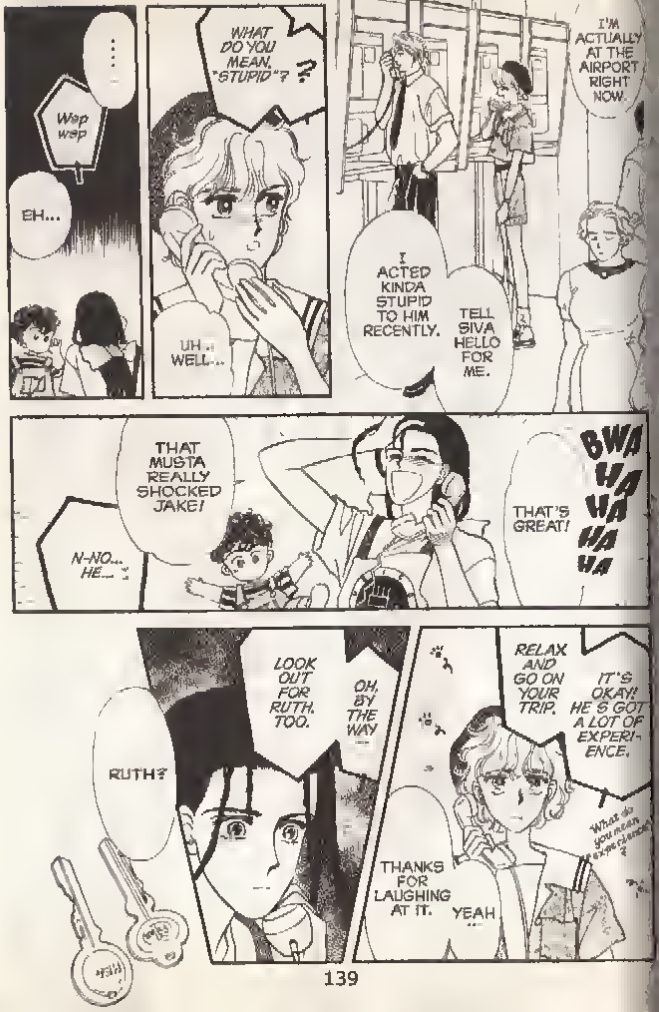

I COULD SCARCELY GET A POINT.
HE'S REALLY GOOD!
IT'S ALL BREAKS.
HAL...
TODAY YOU'RE SERIOUS.


IT'S SCARY... TENNIS IS.
IN A MATCH, YOU'RE ALL ALONE.
NO COACH OR ANYBODY CAN HELP YOU.
AS SOON AS YOU THINK YOU'RE LOSING, YOU LOSE YOUR CONCENTRATION, AND THEN YOU LOSE EVERYTHING.
I CAN'T JUST GIVE UP AND BE SATISFIED WITH A POINT A GAME
THERE'S STILL A CHANCE TO CHANGE THE FLOW.
I BELIEVE THERE'S A CHANCE TO RETURN THE GAME TO ZERO.

AND THEN EVEN IF I LOSE THE GAME...
...THE COUNT IS STILL ZERO ZERO.

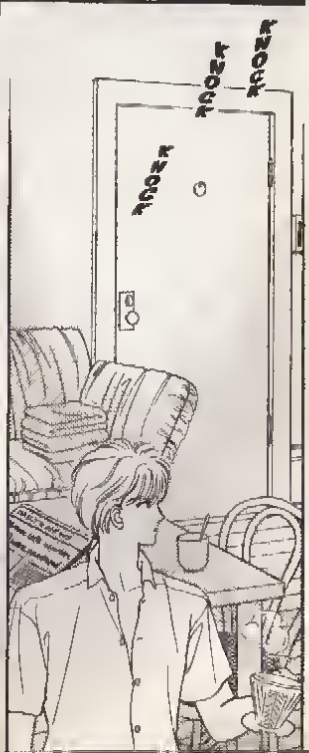
RRRING

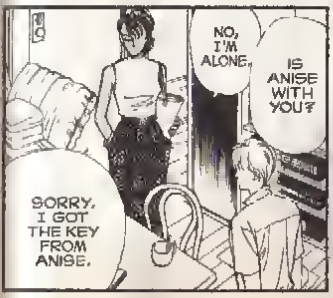

OKAY, RAPHAEL. LET ME HAVE THE PHONE.
HEWOO.
WHO DIS?
AWW.. NO FAIR.
OH... ANISE!
Hee hee WHO WAS THAT? YOUR LITTLE BROTHER?
YOU'RE GOING TO L.A.?!
EH...
WHAT HAPPENED AFTER THAT?
YES VERY NICE
Wook at dat!
YES... MY LITTLE BROTHER.
That's the dust rag I was using


I'M ACTUALLY AT THE AIRPORT RIGHT NOW.
TELL SIVA HELLO FOR ME.
I ACTED KINDA STUPID TO HIM RECENTLY.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "STUPID"? ?
UH... WELL...
Wap wap
EH...
THAT'S GREAT!
BWA HA HA HA HA
THAT MUSTA REALLY SHOCKED JAKE!
N-NO... HE...
OH, BY THE WAY
LOOK OUT FOR RUTH, TOO.
RUTH?
IT'S OKAY! HE'S GOT A LOT OF EXPERI-ENCE.
RELAX AND GO ON YOUR TRIP.
What do you mean, "experience"?
YEAH...
THANKS FOR LAUGHING AT IT.

RUTH?

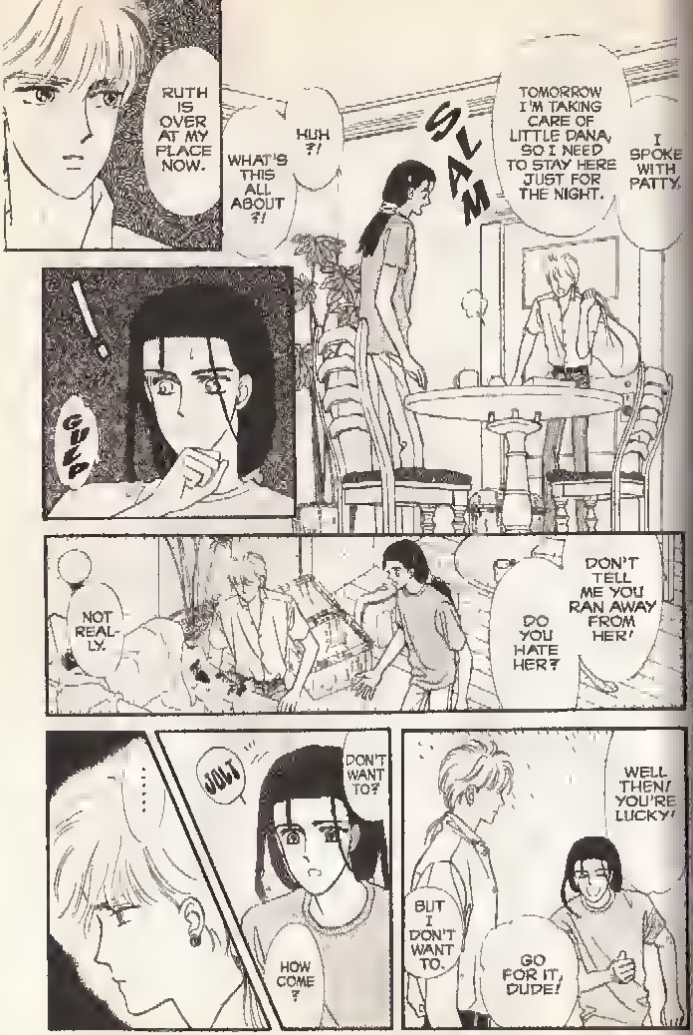
OH?

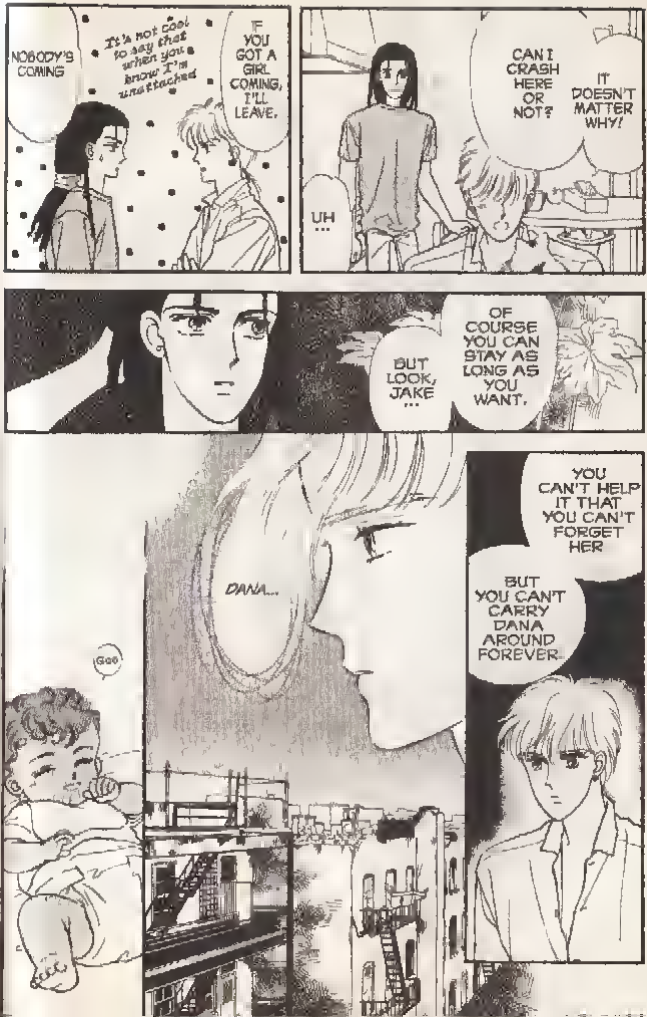

KNOCK
KNOCK
KNOCK


SORRY. I GOT THE KEY FROM ANISE.
NO, I'M ALONE.
IS ANISE WITH YOU?

SHE LEFT FOR L.A. TODAY.
HUFF
SHE DID?
I SEE...
SO SHE WENT.
SHE TOLD ME TO LOOK AFTER YOU WHILE SHE WAS GONE, AND GAVE ME THE KEYS.
ANY-WAY
I'LL COME OVER AS MUCH AS I CAN.
I GUESS I'LL START BY CLEANING UP.
HUH?
HEY, WAIT A MINUTE!

I'VE GOT TO FIND OUT...
I'M GONNA FIND OUT FOR SURE WHICH SIVA THIS IS!
GO FOR IT! UNTIL I'M CERTAIN.
BAM
LEVINE
LET ME CRASH HERE FOR A WHILE!


RUTH IS OVER AT MY PLACE NOW.
WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?!
HUH?!
SLAM
I SPOKE WITH PATTY.
TOMORROW I'M TAKING CARE OF LITTLE DANA, SO I NEED TO STAY HERE JUST FOR THE NIGHT.
GULP
DON'T TELL ME YOU RAN AWAY FROM HER!
DO YOU HATE HER?
NOT REALLY.
DON'T WANT TO?
JOLT
HOW COME?
.....
WELL THEN, YOU'RE LUCKY!
BUT I DON'T WANT TO.
GO FOR IT, DUDE!


NOBODY'S COMING
It's not cool to say that when you know I'm unattached
IF YOU GOT A GIRL COMING, I'LL LEAVE.
UH ...
CAN I CRASH HERE OR NOT?
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHY!
BUT LOOK, JAKE ...
OF COURSE YOU CAN STAY AS LONG AS YOU WANT.
DANA...
Goo
BUT YOU CAN'T CARRY DANA AROUND FOREVER.
YOU CAN'T HELP IT THAT YOU CAN'T FORGET HER

THE SONG FOR LEVINE WAS WRITTEN BY ROD ANTOON, A GUY FROM THE BAND I LOVE CALLED CAMEO. (HE & ALSO PRODUCED KUBOTA RISHIN AND GWINKO) THIS SONG IS GREAT, TOO!

SOME OTHER SONGS ARE BEING DONE IN LONDON RIGHT NOW. THE COORDINATOR IS PUTTING TOGETHER A DEMO RIGHT NOW IN A PLACE CALLED WOLF STUDIO. I'M REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO IT BEING FINISHED. ALMOST NO JAPANESE WORKED ON THE PROJECT. WE PLANNED FOR IT TO SOUND LIKE A FOREIGN SOUNDTRACK.

"There's even a song for Hal."

PEOPLE WHO AREN'T USED TO FOREIGN MUSIC MIGHT THINK IT'S A LITTLE STRANGE, BUT I THOUGHT OF HAL'S SONG AS LONDON AND LEVINE'S AS AMERICA. I WANT TO THANK EVERYONE WHO HELPED MAKE THIS SELFISH DREAM OF MINE A REALITY. IT GOES ON SALE JULY 21...BRRR... NOW I HAVE TO DRAW THE ALBUM COVER!

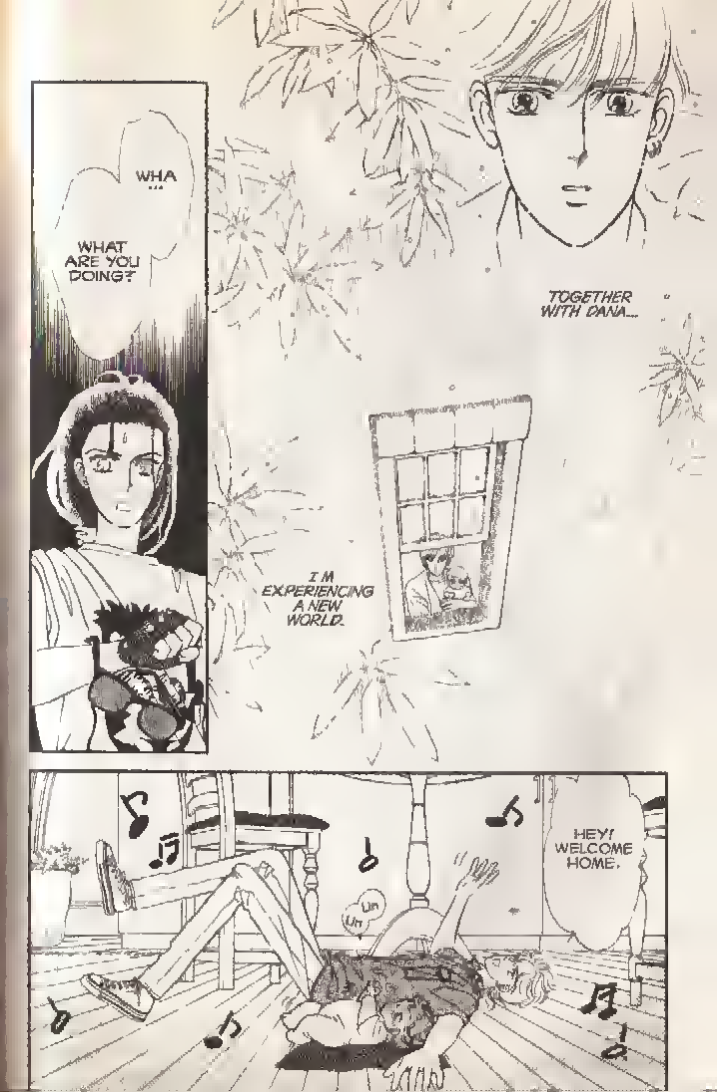
WE DECIDED I'D SWITCH BACK AND FORTH FROM BIG MAMA'S PLACE TO LEVINE'S PLACE BABYSITTING.

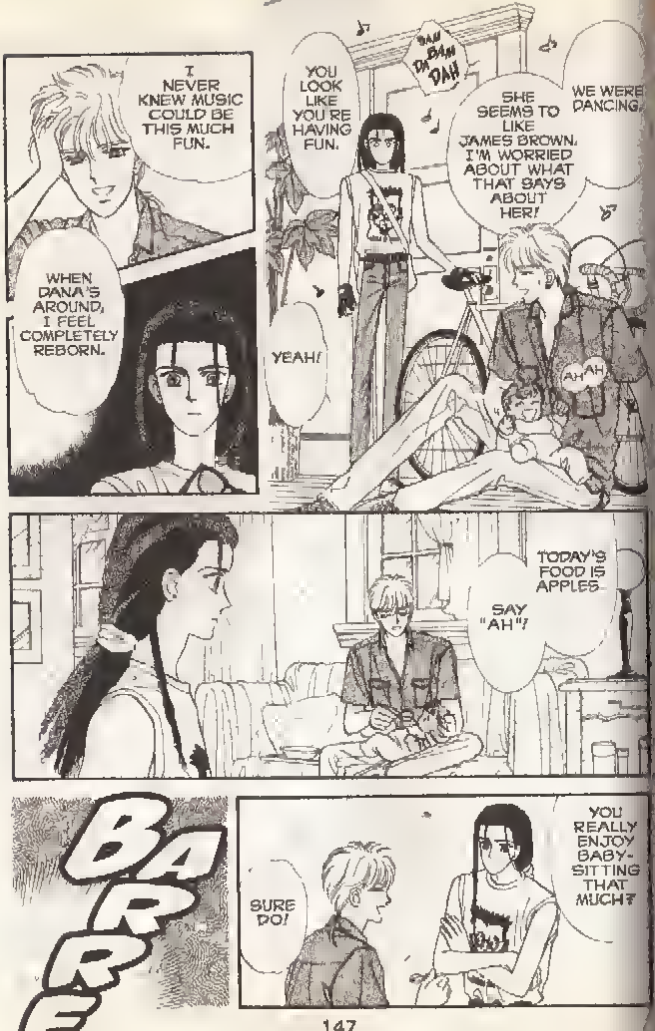
THAT WAY WOULD BE LESS LONELY FOR ELLIE AND BIG MAMA'S KIDS.

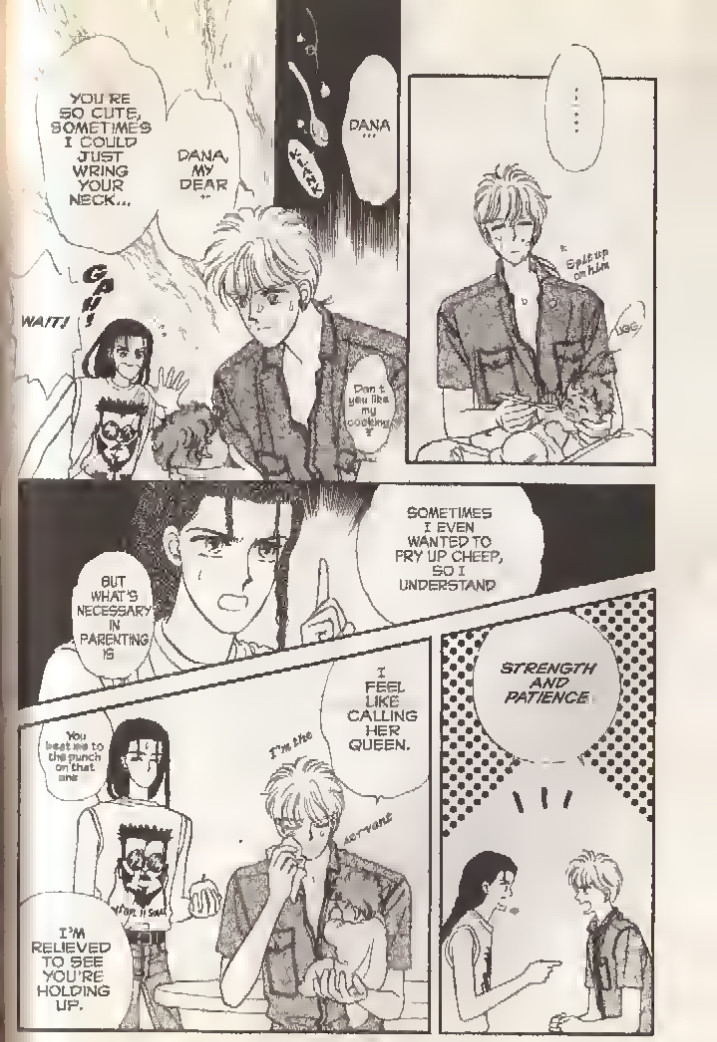
AND LEVINE WAS A REAL VETERAN WITH THE KIDS.

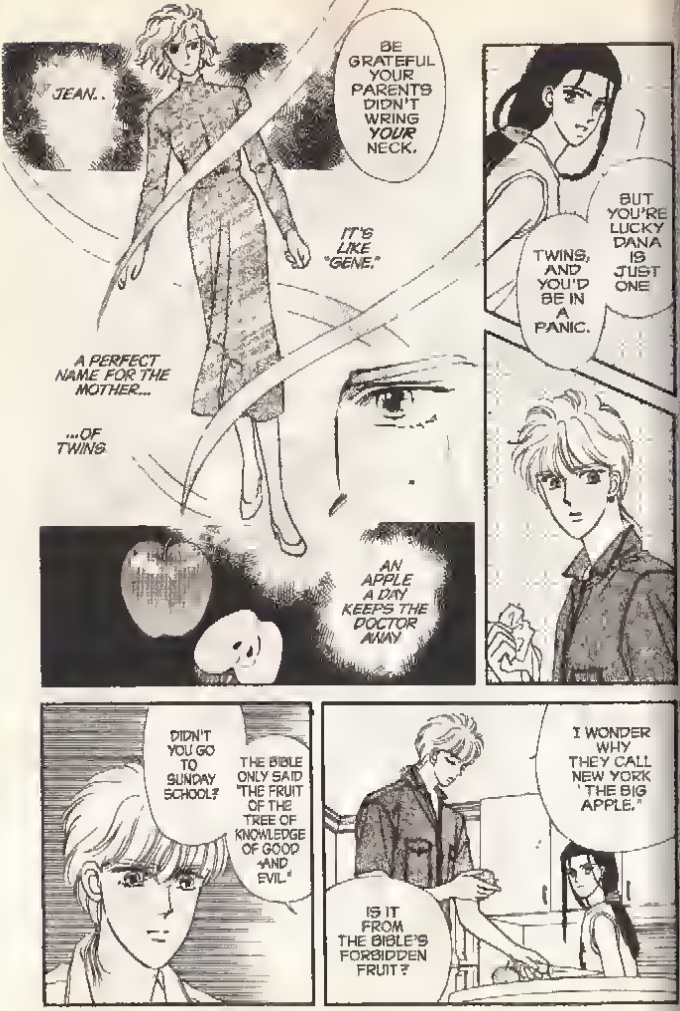
WAH

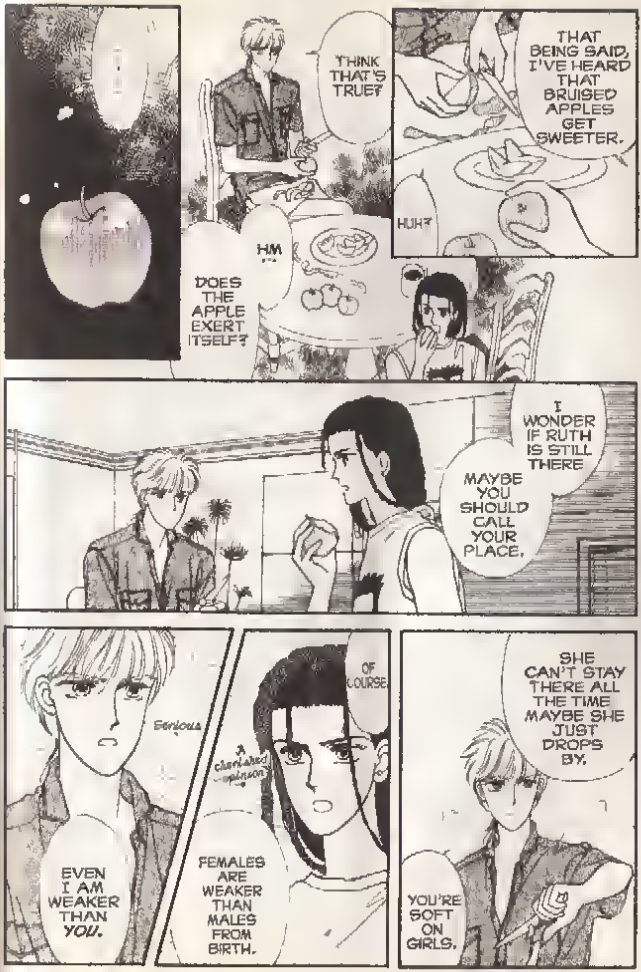
LOOK, DANA. IT'S RAINING. SEE THAT?


WHA...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
TOGETHER WITH DANA...
I'M EXPERIENCING A NEW WORLD.
HEY! WELCOME HOME.
Un
Un

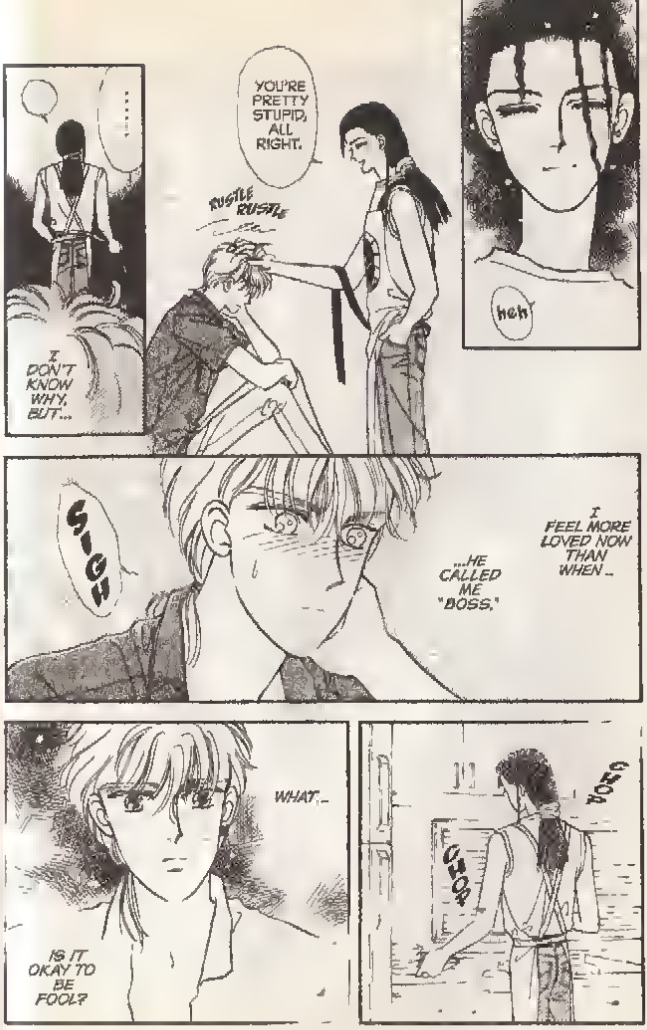

I NEVER KNEW MUSIC COULD BE THIS MUCH FUN.
WHEN DANA'S AROUND, I FEEL COMPLETELY REBORN.
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE HAVING FUN.
DAH DAH DAH
SHE SEEMS TO LIKE JAMES BROWN. I'M WORRIED ABOUT WHAT THAT SAYS ABOUT HER!
WE WERE DANCING.
YEAH!
AH AH
TODAY'S FOOD IS APPLES.
SAY "AH"!
BARF
YOU REALLY ENJOY BABY-SITTING THAT MUCH?
SURE DO!

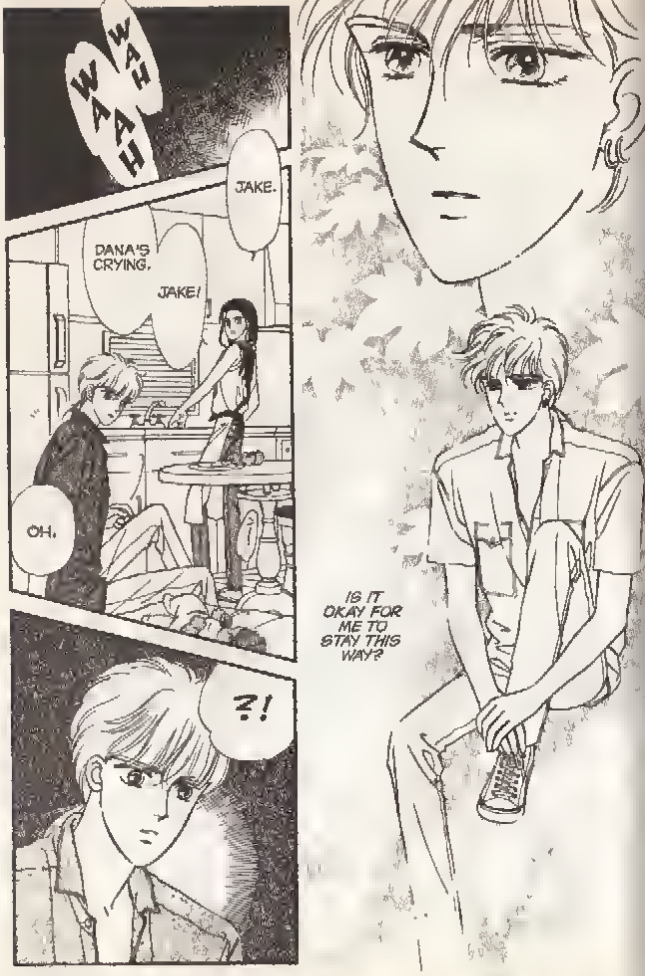

YOU'RE SO CUTE, SOMETIMES I COULD JUST WRING YOUR NECK...
DANA, MY DEAR
DANA...
GAH!
WAIT!
Don't you like my cooking?
Spit up on him
Yeee
SOMETIMES I EVEN WANTED TO FRY UP CHEEP, SO I UNDERSTAND
BUT WHAT'S NECESSARY IN PARENTING IS
STRENGTH AND PATIENCE
I FEEL LIKE CALLING HER QUEEN.
You beat me to the punch on that one
I'm the servant
I'M RELIEVED TO SEE YOU'RE HOLDING UP.

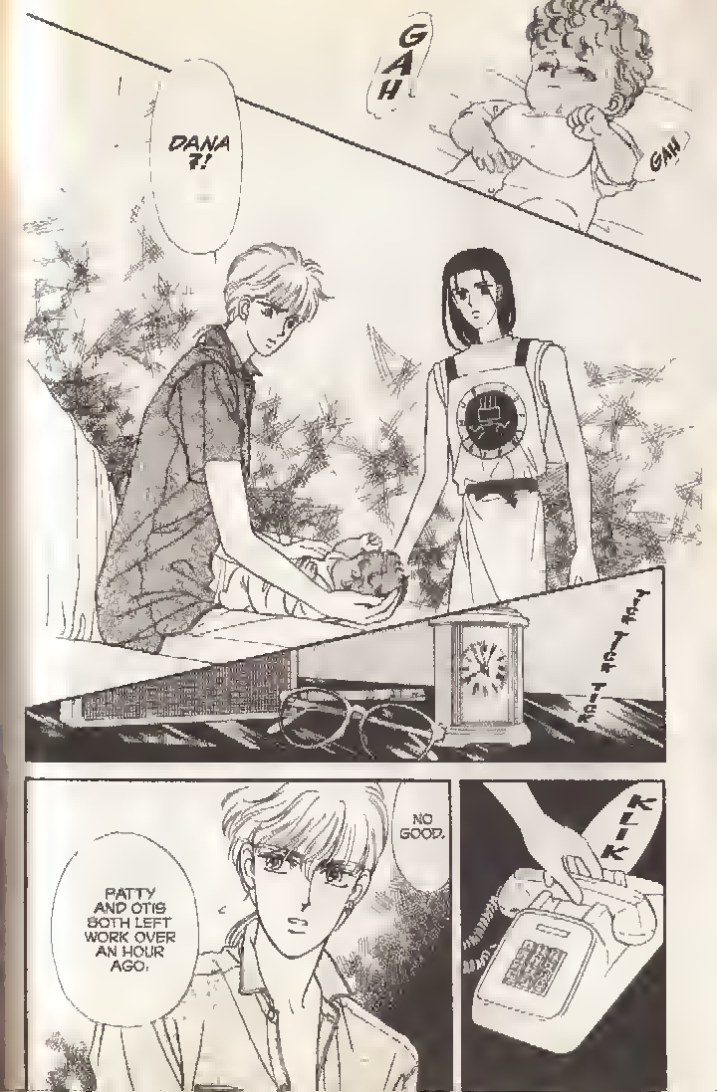

JEAN..
BE GRATEFUL YOUR PARENTS DIDN'T WRING YOUR NECK.
IT'S LIKE "GENE."
A PERFECT NAME FOR THE MOTHER...
...OF TWINS
AN APPLE A DAY KEEPS THE DOCTOR AWAY
BUT YOU'RE LUCKY DANA IS JUST ONE
TWINS, AND YOU'D BE IN A PANIC.
DIDN'T YOU GO TO SUNDAY SCHOOL?
THE BIBLE ONLY SAID "THE FRUIT OF THE TREE OF KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD AND EVIL."
I WONDER WHY THEY CALL NEW YORK "THE BIG APPLE."
IS IT FROM THE BIBLE'S FORBIDDEN FRUIT?

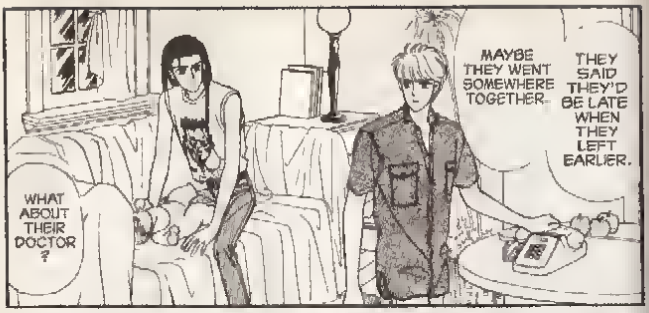

THINK THAT'S TRUE?
THAT BEING SAID, I'VE HEARD THAT BRUISED APPLES GET SWEETER.
HUH?
HM...
DOES THE APPLE EXERT ITSELF?
I WONDER IF RUTH IS STILL THERE
MAYBE YOU SHOULD CALL YOUR PLACE.
Serious
EVEN I AM WEAKER THAN YOU.
A clarinet player
OF COURSE
FEMALES ARE WEAKER THAN MALES FROM BIRTH.
SHE CAN'T STAY THERE ALL THE TIME MAYBE SHE JUST DROPS BY.
YOU'RE SOFT ON GIRLS.

YOU'RE BOSSING ME AROUND A LOT.
YOU'VE BEEN AWFULLY TESTY LATELY.
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU MAKE ME DO IT!
JUST CALL HER DAMNIT!
I got scratched again.
DON'T BRAG ABOUT IT!
I DON'T TALK BACK BECAUSE I'M SO STUPID.
YOU DUMMY
THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M SAYING.
DO YOU WANT ME TO LEAVE?
JAKE?

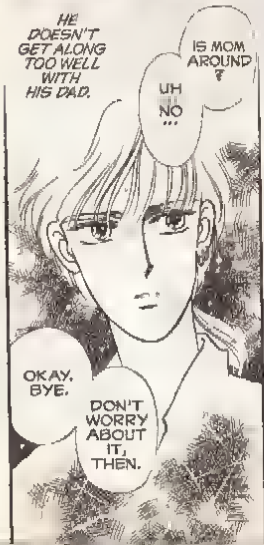

.....
I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT...
YOU'RE PRETTY STUPID, ALL RIGHT.
RUSTLE RUSTLE
heh
SIGH
...HE CALLED ME "BOSS."
I FEEL MORE LOVED NOW THAN WHEN...
WHAT...
IS IT OKAY TO BE FOOL?
CHOP
CHOP


WAAH
WAAH
JAKE.
DANA'S CRYING.
JAKE!
OH.
?!
IS IT OKAY FOR ME TO STAY THIS WAY?


GAH
GAH
DANA?!
TICK TICK TICK
NO GOOD.
PATTY AND OTIS BOTH LEFT WORK OVER AN HOUR AGO.
KLIK


WHAT ABOUT THEIR DOCTOR?
MAYBE THEY WENT SOMEWHERE TOGETHER.
THEY SAID THEY'D BE LATE WHEN THEY LEFT EARLIER.

DO YOU KNOW THE NUMBER OF BIG MAMA'S SHOP?
I CAN ONLY GET HIS ANSWERING MACHINE.


HE DOESN'T GET ALONG TOO WELL WITH HIS DAD.
IS MOM AROUND?
UH NO...
OKAY. BYE.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, THEN.

HELLO?
DAD?
IT'S ALEX.

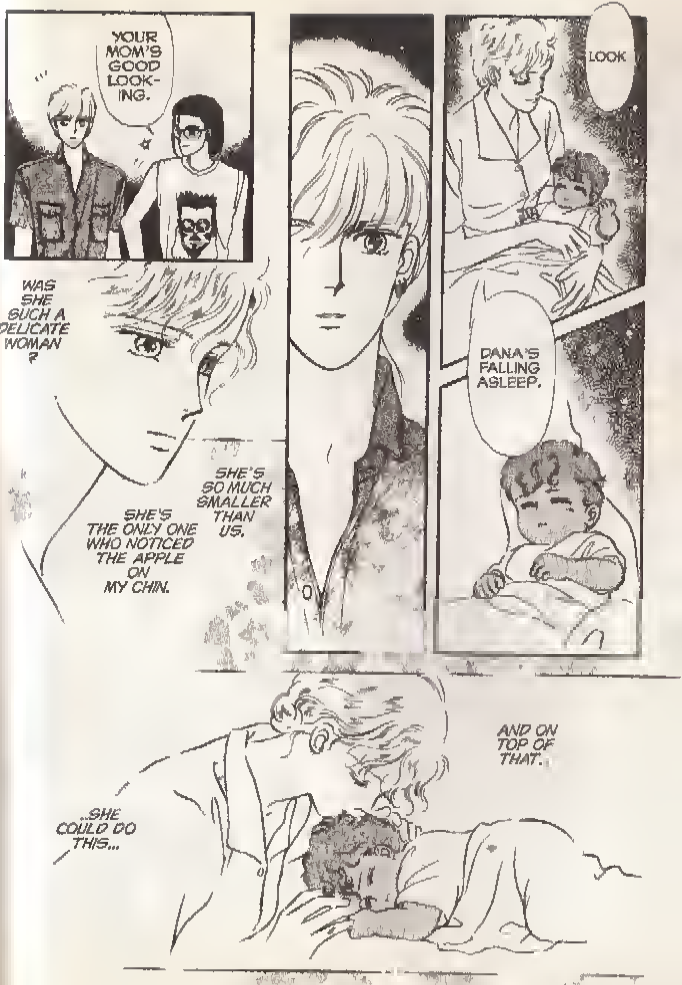
HOLD ON.
I'LL CALL MY PLACE.

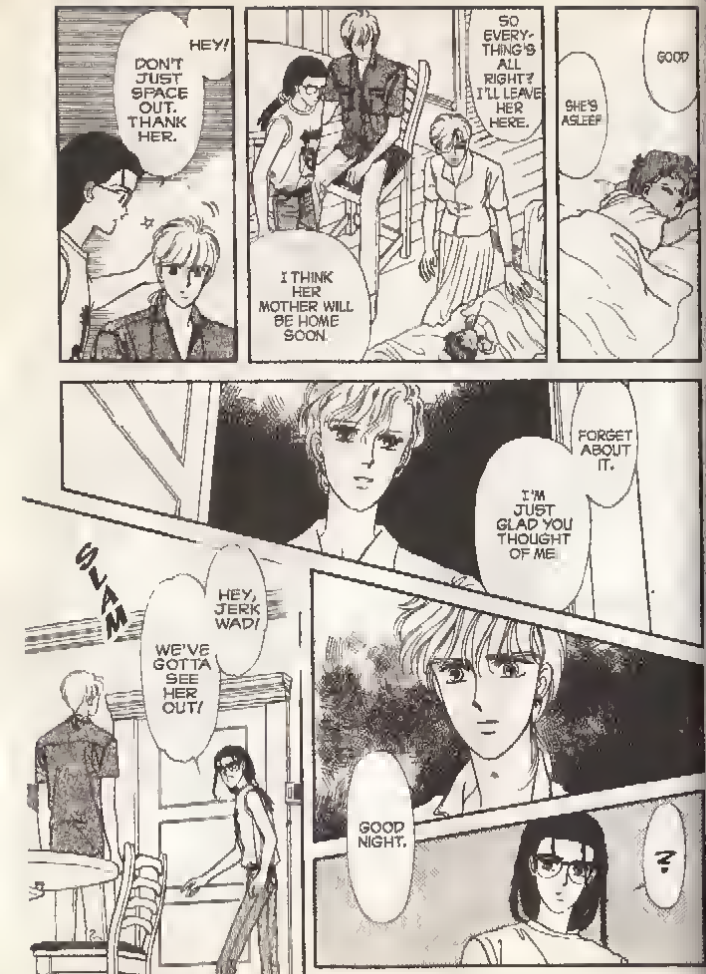
JAKE ?
DAMN SHE'S GONE OUT.
HOW'S DANA?
SOB
STILL FRETTING
SHE'S NEVER CRIED LIKE THIS BEFORE.
JEAN?
HELLO
CHAK
RRRRING

BUUUUD
IT'S ME.
JEAN.
THE THE THE THE
BZZZZZZ
CHAK

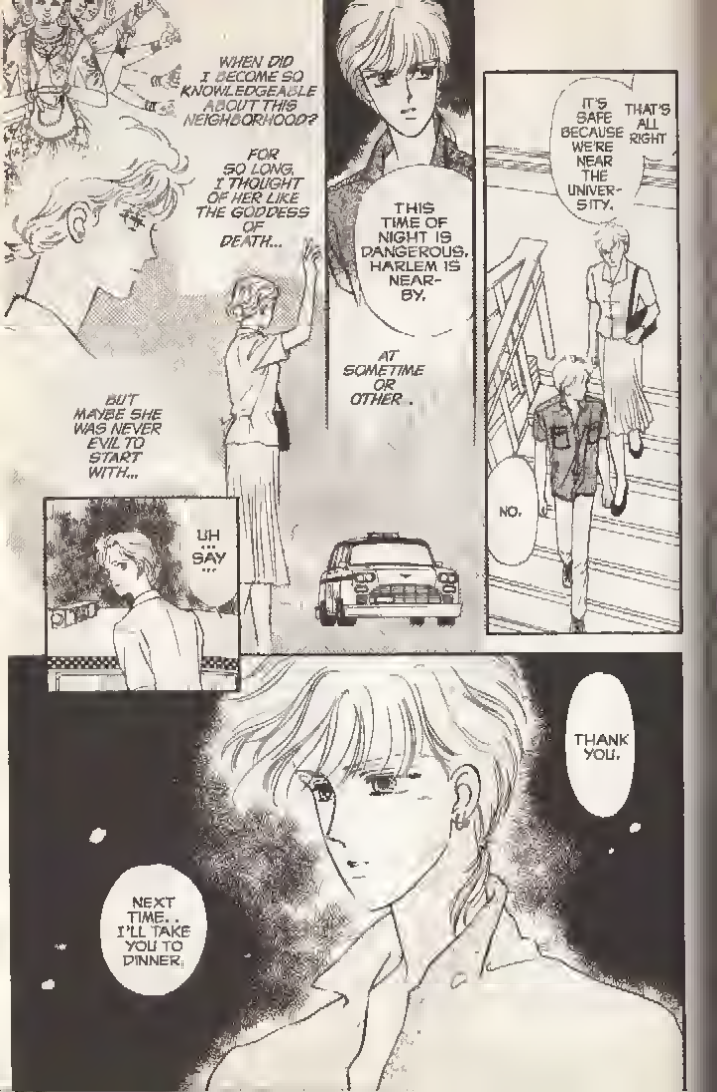
JAKE
IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU
HELLO. YOU MUST BE THE ONE THAT I SPOKE TO BEFORE
ALEX, IS IT?
YES, MA'AM.
COME IN
MY, MY.
SO THIS IS THE LITTLE CRYBABY.
DID SHE THROW UP OR POOP ANYTHING STRANGE RECENTLY?
SOME APPLE, BEFORE

LOOKS LIKE IT FLEW PRETTY FAR.
REAL-LY?
SHE JUST SPIT IT OUT OF HER MOUTH, NOT HER STOMACH.
YES, THAT'S RIGHT.
BUT THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT, SHE'S MOVING AROUND HEALTHILY
HMM... SHE FEELS A LITTLE WARM.
MAN...
NO NEED TO BOTHER WITH A DOCTOR.
SHE SHOULD BE FINE BY TOMORROW. JUST KEEP AN EYE ON HER
OH...
SHE'S GOOD AT THIS.

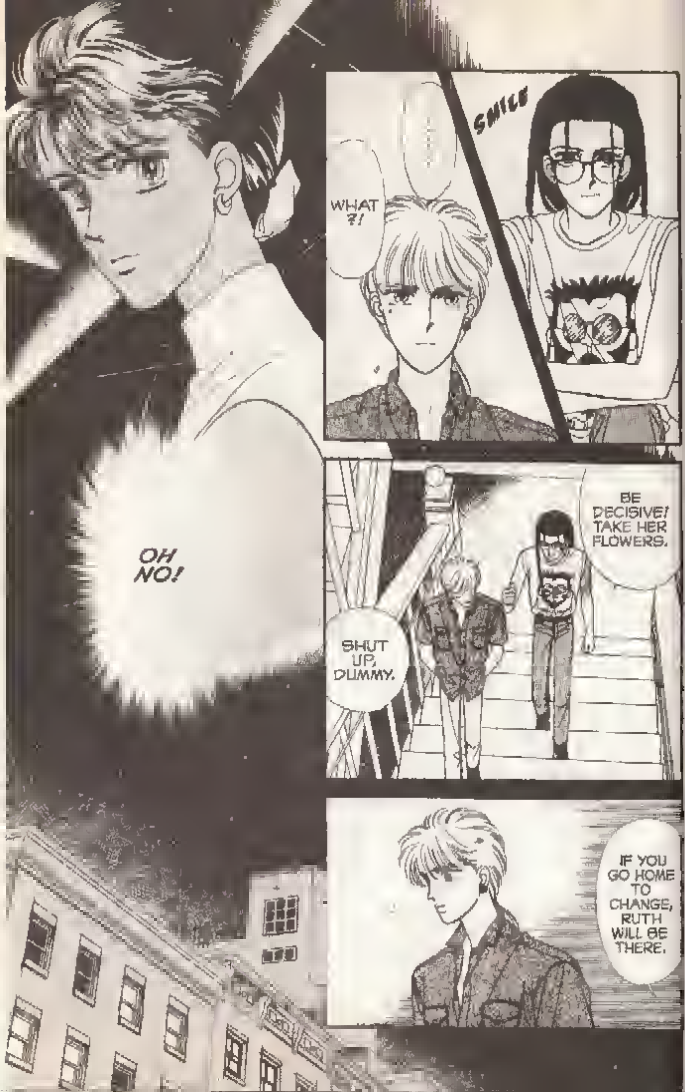

YOUR MOM'S GOOD LOOK-ING.
WAS SHE SUCH A DELICATE WOMAN ?
SHE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO NOTICED THE APPLE ON MY CHIN.
SHE'S SO MUCH SMALLER THAN US.
LOOK
DANA'S FALLING ASLEEP.
AND ON TOP OF THAT..
..SHE COULD DO THIS...


HEY! DON'T JUST SPACE OUT. THANK HER.
I THINK HER MOTHER WILL BE HOME SOON.
SO EVERY-THING'S ALL RIGHT? I'LL LEAVE HER HERE.
SHE'S ASLEEP
GOOD
FORGET ABOUT IT.
I'M JUST GLAD YOU THOUGHT OF ME.
GOOD NIGHT.
?
SLAM
HEY, JERK WAD!
WE'VE GOTTA SEE HER OUT!

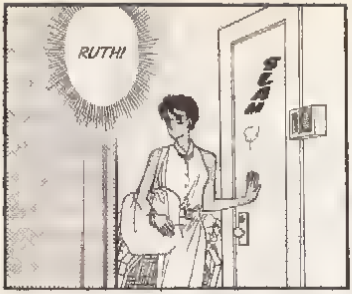
?!
JAKE ?!
GRAB
!
SLAM
...
I'LL WALK YOU DOWN.

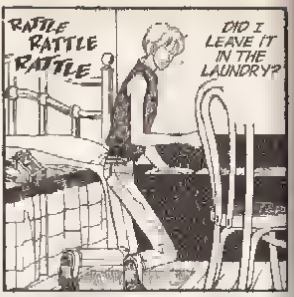

WHEN DID I BECOME SO KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT THIS NEIGHBORHOOD?
FOR SO LONG, I THOUGHT OF HER LIKE THE GODDESS OF DEATH...
BUT MAYBE SHE WAS NEVER EVIL TO START WITH...
THIS TIME OF NIGHT IS DANGEROUS, HARLEM IS NEAR-BY.
AT SOMETIME OR OTHER.
UH ... SAY ...
NO.
IT'S SAFE BECAUSE WE'RE NEAR THE UNIVER-SITY.
THAT'S ALL RIGHT
THANK YOU.
NEXT TIME.. I'LL TAKE YOU TO DINNER.

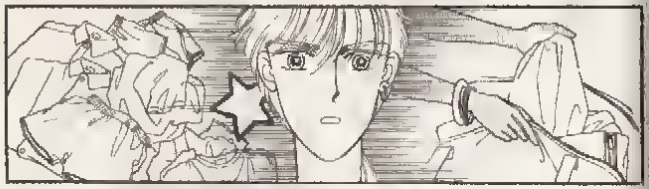
I'LL CALL YOU LATER.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THAT.
YOU SILLY...
VROOM


OH NO!
WHAT?!
SMILE
SHUT UP, DUMMY.
BE DECISIVE! TAKE HER FLOWERS.
IF YOU GO HOME TO CHANGE, RUTH WILL BE THERE.

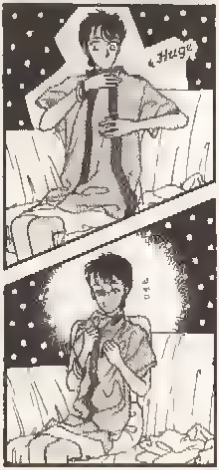
SHE'S NOT HERE. BETTER CHANGE QUICK AND GET OUT OF HERE.
GLANCE
CHAK
?
WHERE'S MY STRIPED SHIRT?


RUTH!
SCAN

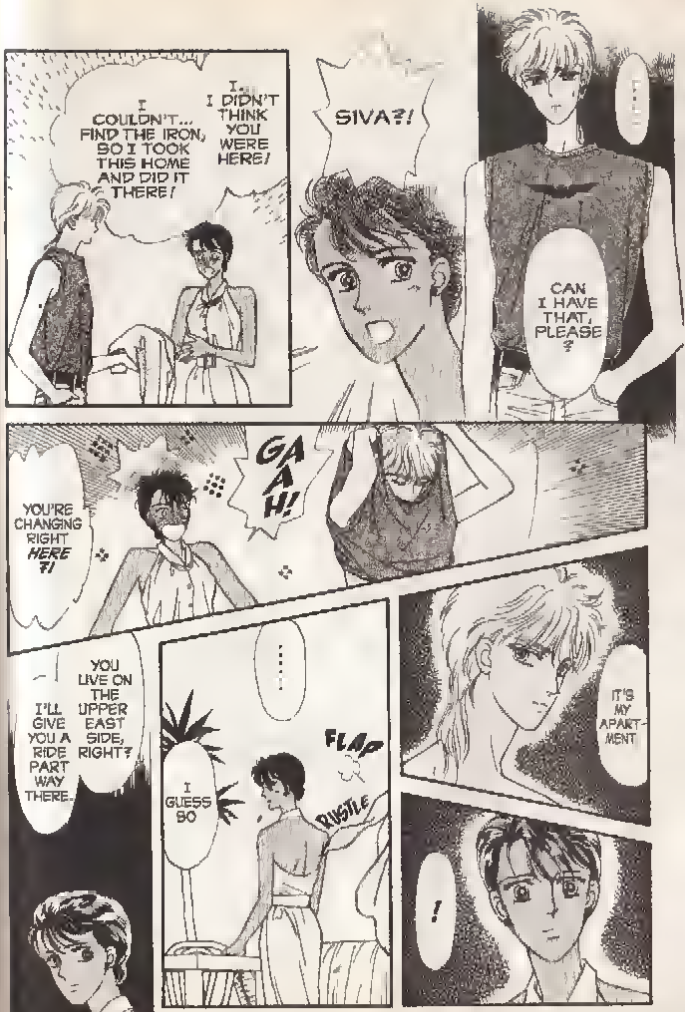

RATTLE RATTLE RATTLE
DID I LEAVE IT IN THE LAUNDRY?



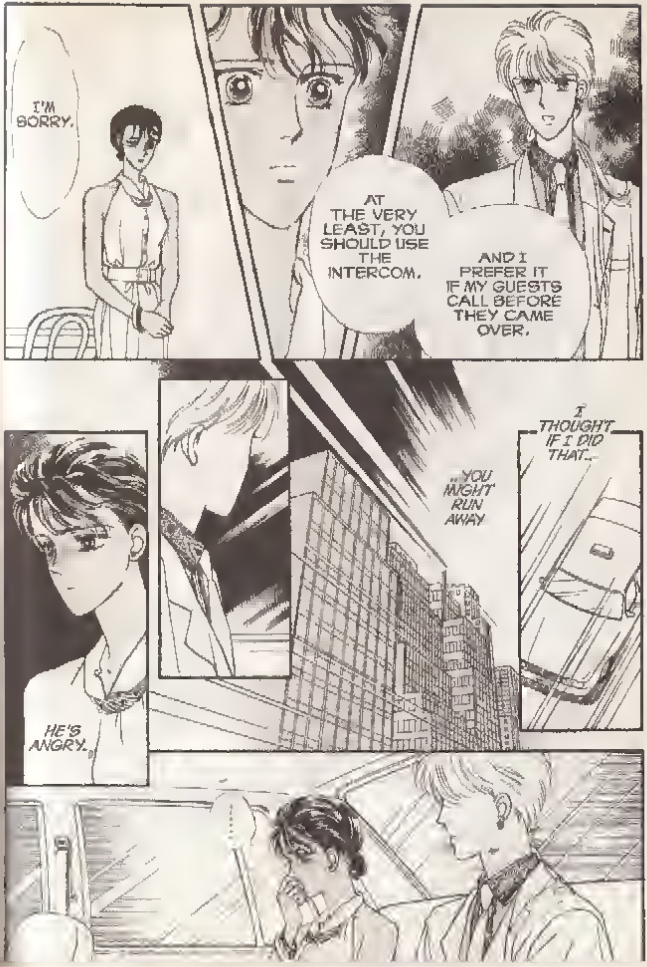
KNOCK KNOCK

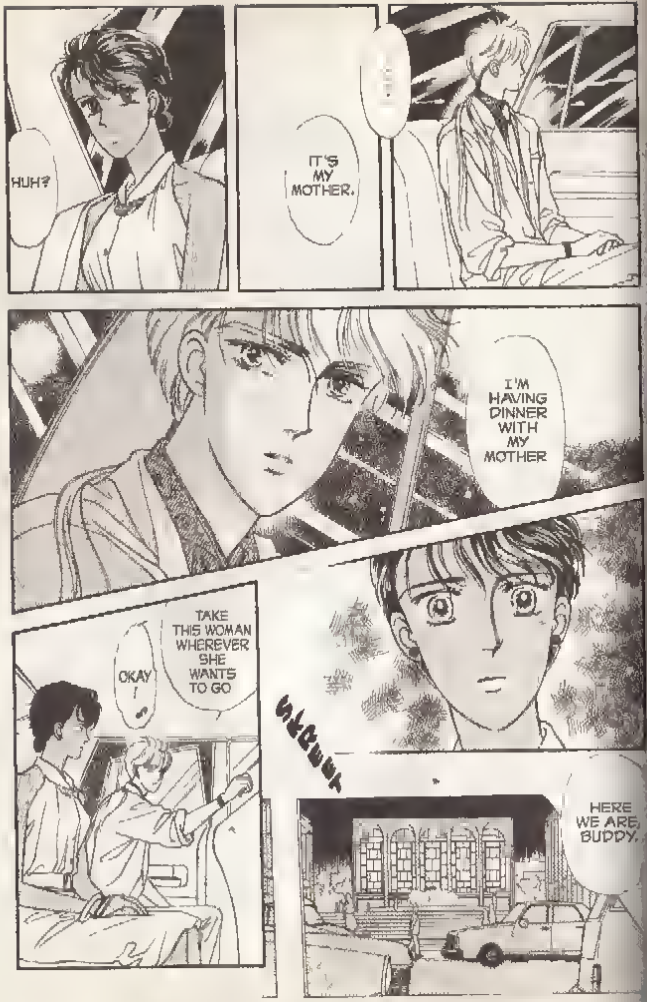

Hugs

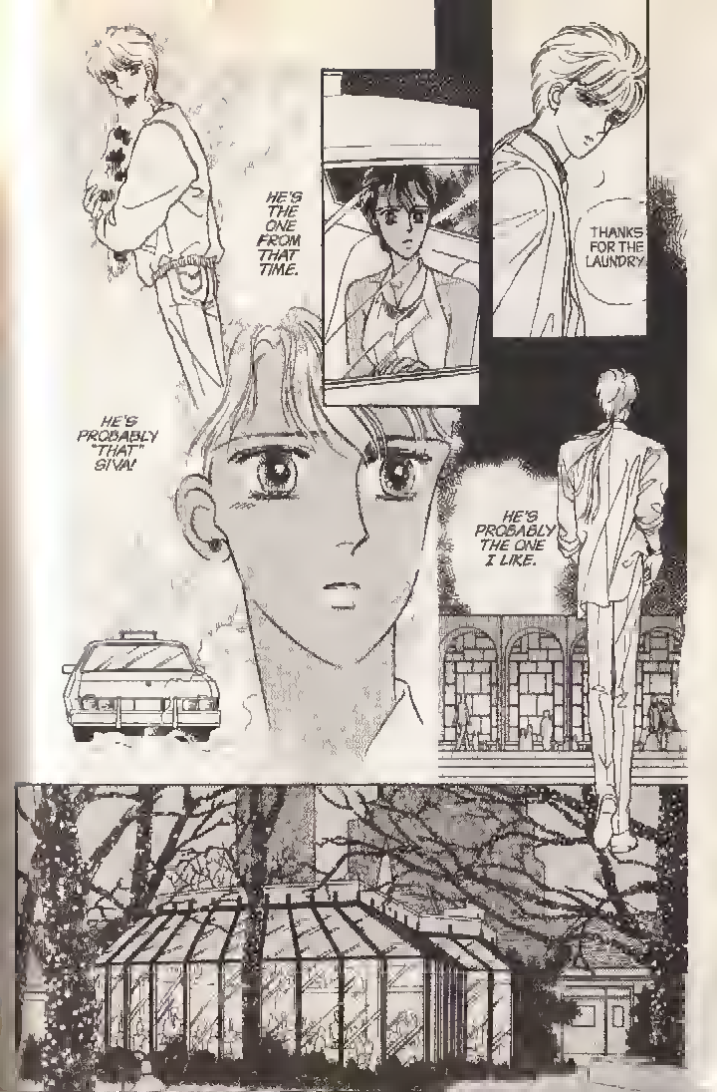
STARE
She washed my underwear.

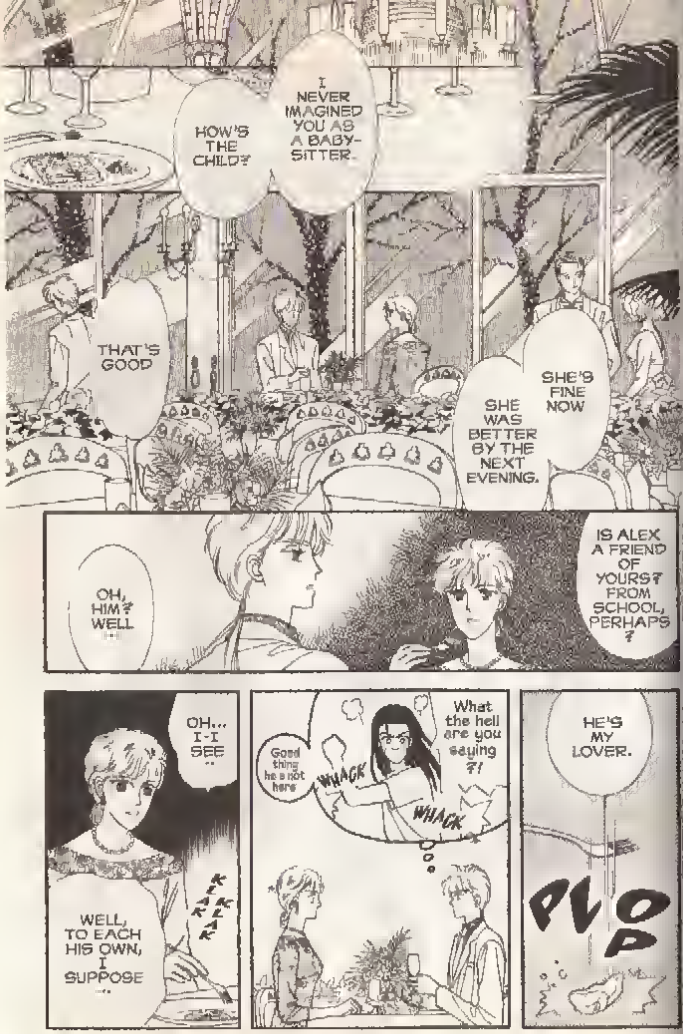

I COULDN'T... FIND THE IRON, SO I TOOK THIS HOME AND DID IT THERE!
I... I DIDN'T THINK YOU WERE HERE!
SIVA?!
CAN I HAVE THAT, PLEASE?
GA AH!
YOU'RE CHANGING RIGHT HERE?!
I'LL GIVE YOU A RIDE PART WAY THERE.
YOU LIVE ON THE UPPER EAST SIDE, RIGHT?
I GUESS SO
FLAP
RUSTLE
IT'S MY APARTMENT
!

SO DRESSY
HAVE A DATE?
A FULL-ON DINNER DATE!
YES
DINNER AFTER THE LINCOLN CENTER.
LET ME SAY THIS AGAIN, RUTH. I DON'T NEED LOOKING AFTER.
I CAN COOK AND CLEAN AS WELL AS ANY-ONE.
BUT YOU NEED MORE THAN THAT, DON'T YOU?
I...
AND AS YOU CAN SEE, I HAVE A FRIEND I CAN STAY WITH FOR DAYS.

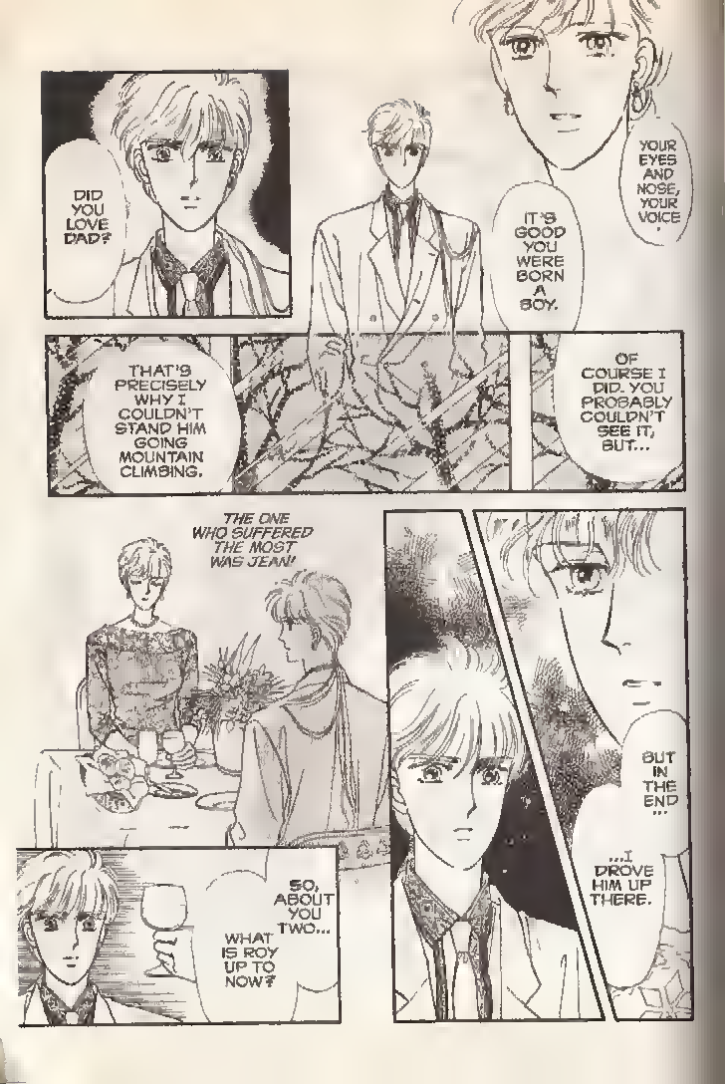

I'M SORRY.
AT THE VERY LEAST, YOU SHOULD USE THE INTERCOM.
AND I PREFER IT IF MY GUESTS CALL BEFORE THEY CAME OVER.
HE'S ANGRY.
..YOU MIGHT RUN AWAY
I THOUGHT IF I DID THAT...

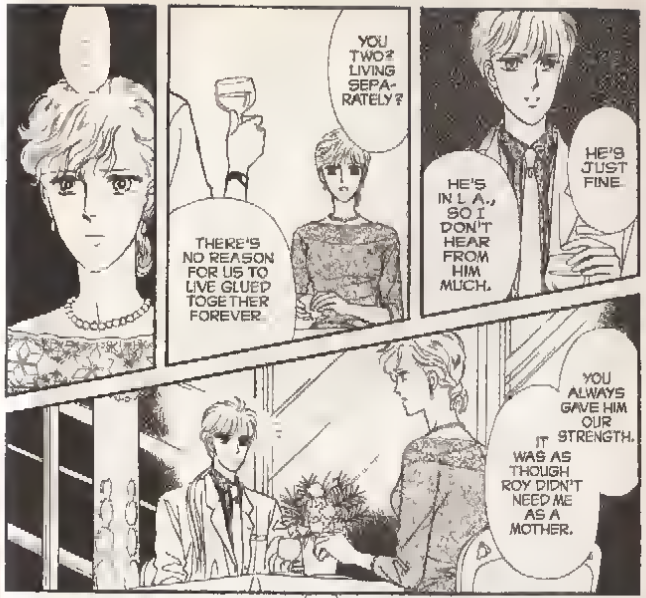

HUH?
IT'S MY MOTHER.
I'M HAVING DINNER WITH MY MOTHER
TAKE THIS WOMAN WHEREVER SHE WANTS TO GO
OKAY!
HERE WE ARE, BUDDY.

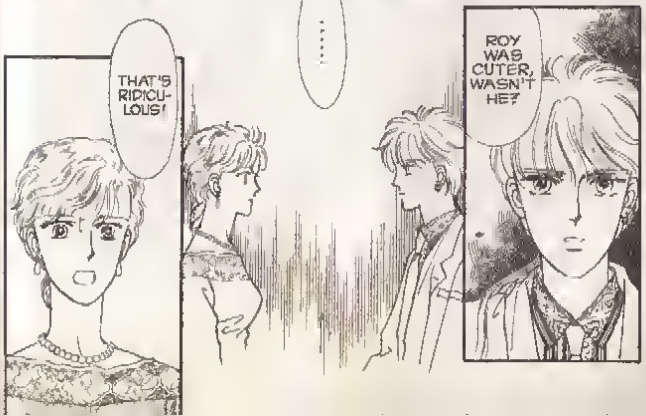

HE'S THE ONE FROM THAT TIME.
THANKS FOR THE LAUNDRY.
HE'S PROBABLY "THAT" GIVA!
HE'S PROBABLY THE ONE I LIKE.


I NEVER IMAGINED YOU AS A BABY-SITTER.
HOW'S THE CHILD?
THAT'S GOOD
SHE'S FINE NOW
SHE WAS BETTER BY THE NEXT EVENING.
IS ALEX A FRIEND OF YOURS? FROM SCHOOL, PERHAPS?
OH, HIM? WELL...
OH... I-I SEE...
KI KI RA
WELL, TO EACH HIS OWN, I SUPPOSE...
What the hell are you saying?!
Good thing he's not here
WHACK
WHACK
HE'S MY LOVER.
PLOP

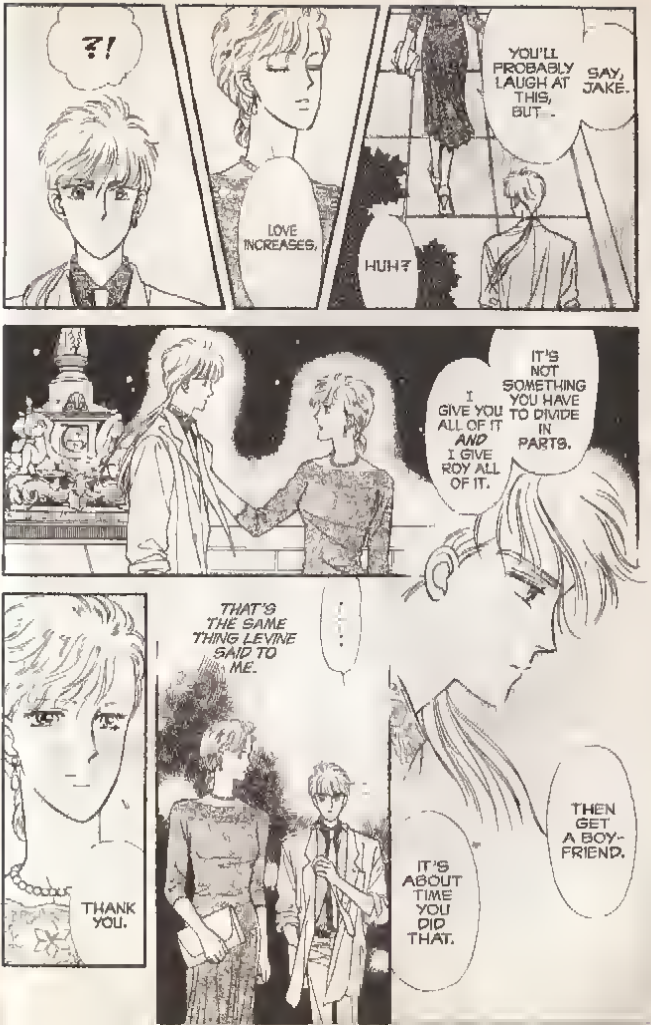
EH?
BWA HA HA
Dug your own grave
I'M DISAPPOINTED THAT YOU BELIEVED IT SO QUICKLY.
COLD-BLOODED
PLOP
JUST KIDDING.
I FEEL LIKE I'M SEEING A YOUNGER VERSION OF HIM.
YOU HAVE SOME STRANGE RESEMBLANCES
WELL, RUPERT WAS THE SAME WAY.
WHAT, DAD?
WERE YOU ALWAYS THIS KIND OF CHILD?
YES.
I WAS THIS KIND OF CHILD.


DID YOU LOVE DAD?
IT'S GOOD YOU WERE BORN A BOY.
YOUR EYES AND NOSE, YOUR VOICE
THAT'S PRECISELY WHY I COULDN'T STAND HIM GOING MOUNTAIN CLIMBING.
OF COURSE I DID. YOU PROBABLY COULDN'T SEE IT, BUT...
THE ONE WHO SUFFERED THE MOST WAS JEAN!
SO, ABOUT YOU TWO... WHAT IS ROY UP TO NOW?
BUT IN THE END ...
...I DROVE HIM UP THERE.

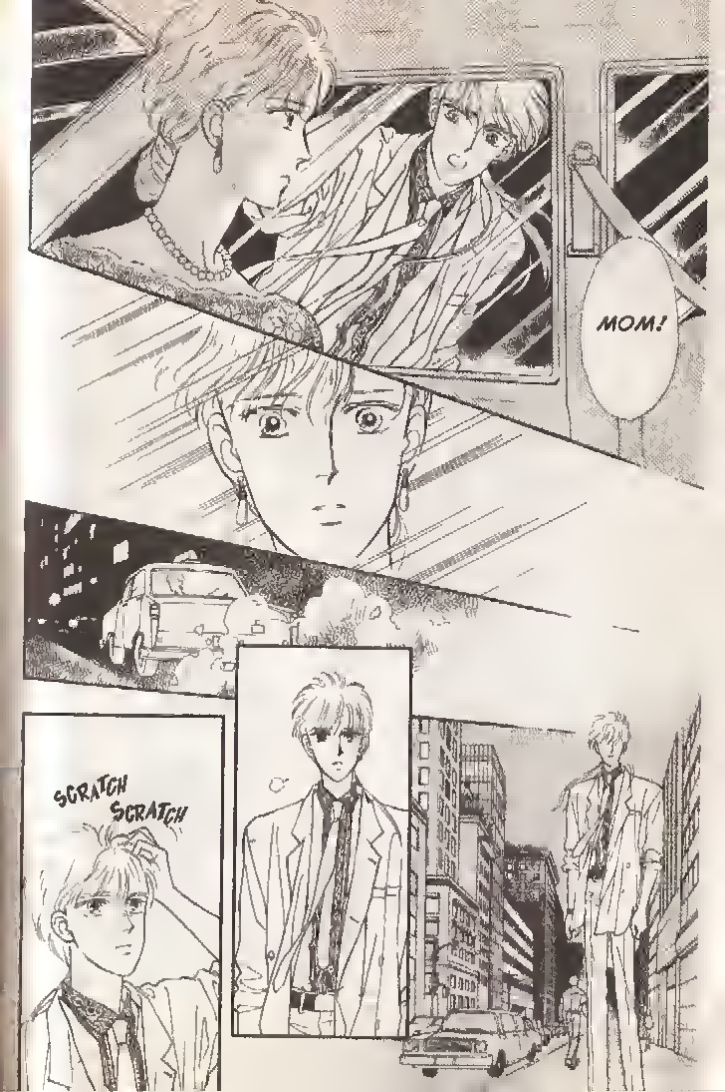

YOU TWO? LIVING SEPA-RATELY?
THERE'S NO REASON FOR US TO LIVE GLUED TOGETHER FOREVER.
HE'S IN L.A., SO I DON'T HEAR FROM HIM MUCH.
HE'S JUST FINE.
YOU ALWAYS GAVE HIM OUR STRENGTH.
IT WAS AS THOUGH ROY DIDN'T NEED ME AS A MOTHER.


THAT'S RIDICU-LOUS!
.....
ROY WAS CUTER, WASN'T HE?

Hey
Hey
YOU MUST HAVE A LOT OF GUYS ASKING YOU.
DON'T BE SILLY.
TODAY WAS DELIGHT-FUL.
I HAVEN'T HAD A DATE LIKE THIS IN A LONG TIME.

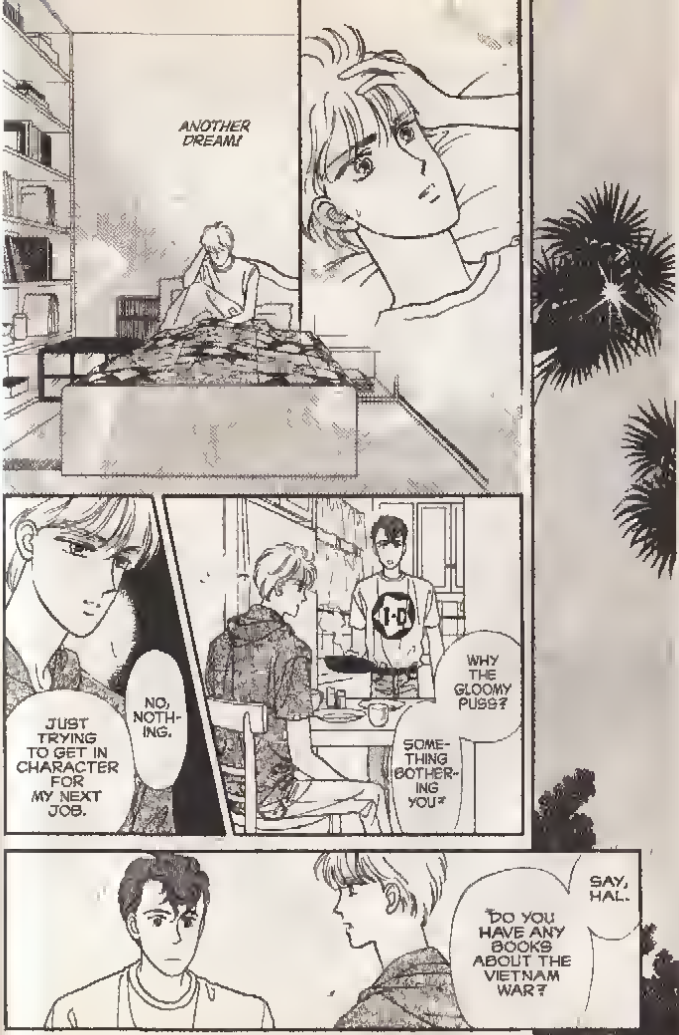

?!
LOVE INCREASES,
HUH?
YOU'LL PROBABLY LAUGH AT THIS, BUT...
SAY, JAKE.
IT'S NOT SOMETHING YOU HAVE TO DIVIDE IN PARTS.
I GIVE YOU ALL OF IT AND I GIVE ROY ALL OF IT.
THAT'S THE SAME THING LEVINE SAID TO ME.
...
THEN GET A BOY-FRIEND.
IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU DID THAT.
THANK YOU.

THESE DAYS THEY HAVE A LOT OF CHEMICALS IN THEM
YOU MUSTN'T EAT THEM.
I PEEL THE SKINS OFF.
BUT..
WOBBLE
OH! THERE'S ONE MORE THING I THINK I NEED TO TELL YOU.
ABOUT THE APPLES.
JOLT
EH ...
IF YOU REALLY MUST, THEN PEEL THEM DEEPLY DEEPLY!
THAT'S NOT ENOUGH!
OH.
GOOD NIGHT
TAXI!
THAT'S ENOUGH FOR TODAY.


MOM!
SCRATCH SCRATCH

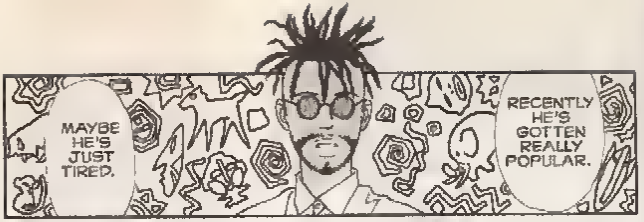
I'LL TAKE THEM ALL.
THANK YOU, SIR.
?
?
GRIN
THEY'RE FOR YOU.
SHUP

FLOWERS FOR THE WORLD.
FLOWER FOR NEW YORK

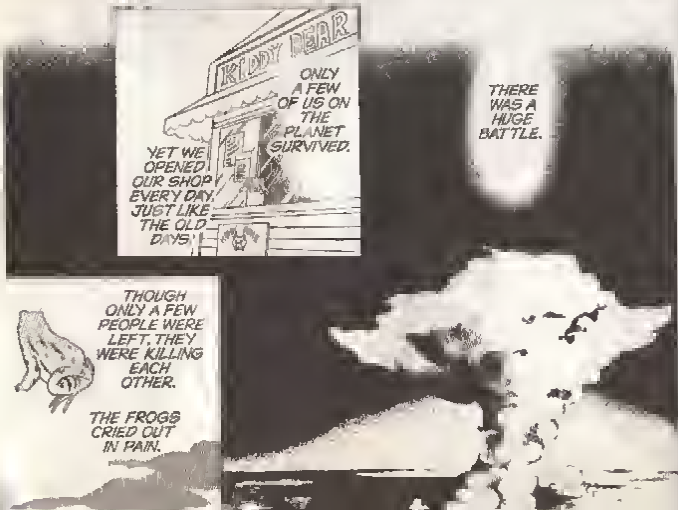

ANOTHER DREAM!
WHY THE GLOOMY PUSS?
SOME-THING BOTHER-ING YOU?
NO, NOTH-ING.
JUST TRYING TO GET IN CHARACTER FOR MY NEXT JOB.
SAY, HAL.
DO YOU HAVE ANY BOOKS ABOUT THE VIETNAM WAR?

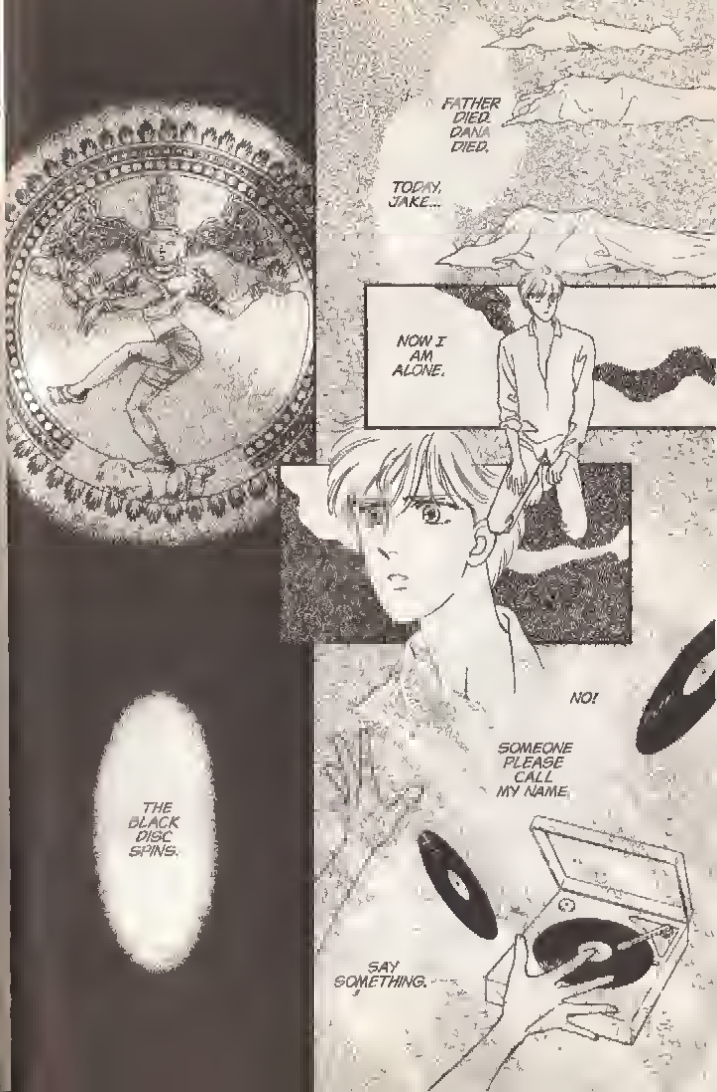
SINCE HE WAS A WRITER OF THAT PERIOD, HE ALSO TOUCHES ON VIETNAM A LITTLE BIT.
READ THE POST-SCRIPT IN THIS.
EAST OF EDEN I
EAST OF EDEN I
SO THIS IS IT...
WHAT, WAR MOVIES?
NO, ABOUT THE AMERICA OF THAT PERIOD ...
THE AUTHOR STEINBECK DIED IN NEW YORK THE YEAR I WAS BORN.
STRANGE COINCIDENCE.
IN TRYING TO ESCAPE, I ENDED UP IN THE HOME GROUND.
DID YOU KNOW THAT THE SETTING FOR THE BOOK WAS THE AUTHOR'S HOME IN CALIFORNIA?
NO, I DIDN'T.

OCTOBER 1969?!
1969
NO WAY! YOU WERE ONLY TWENTY MONTHS OLD.
I FEEL LIKE I'VE SEEN THIS ...
THIS ...
WHAT, THAT?
SOME THING'S STRANGE
JUST WHEN I THINK HE'S BROODING HE CHEERS UP.
WHOA
HEY! ARE YOU OKAY?
I'VE GOT TO BE STRONG.
I CAN'T STAY LIKE THIS FOREVER.

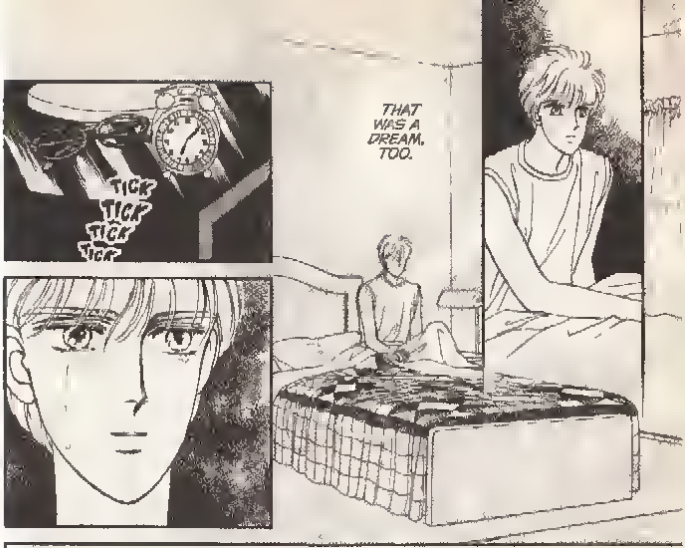

MAYBE HE'S JUST TIRED.
RECENTLY HE'S GOTTEN REALLY POPULAR.

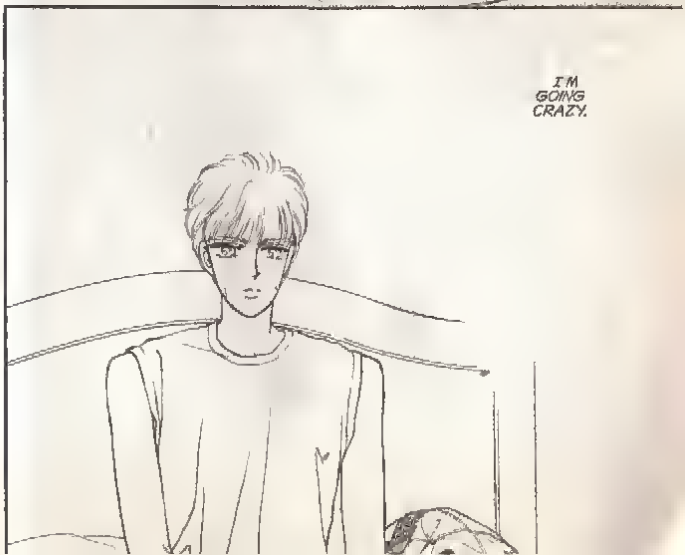
LET'S NOT TALK ABOUT IT OUT HERE.
YEAH, RIGHT.
I SEE A LOT OF GIRLS LYING IN WAIT FOR HIM.
HE HAS TO KEEP HIS GUARD UP.
You gotta do something about that British accent.


KUDDY BEAR
ONLY A FEW OF US ON THE PLANET SURVIVED.
YET WE OPENED OUR SHOP EVERY DAY, JUST LIKE THE OLD DAYS.
THERE WAS A HUGE BATTLE.
THOUGH ONLY A FEW PEOPLE WERE LEFT, THEY WERE KILLING EACH OTHER.
THE FROGS CRIED OUT IN PAIN.


FATHER DIED. DANA DIED.
TODAY, JAKE...
NOW I AM ALONE.
NO!
SOMEONE PLEASE CALL MY NAME.
THE BLACK DISC SPINS.
SAY SOMETHING.

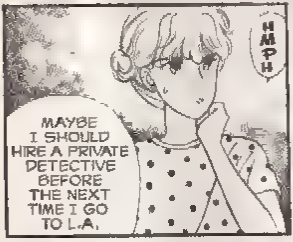
HEY, ROY, YOUR AGENT IS ON THE PHONE.
THANKS
A DREAM...
THAT'S A GREAT IDEA!
LET'S BRING HER TO JAKE AND SURPRISE HIM.
DANA'S ACTUALLY ALIVE.
ROY, YOU'VE GOT A MESSAGE FROM NEW YORK.
OH..


TICK
TICK
TICK
TICK
THAT WAS A DREAM, TOO.

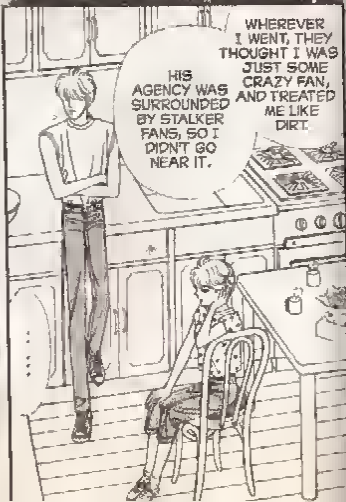

I'M GOING CRAZY.

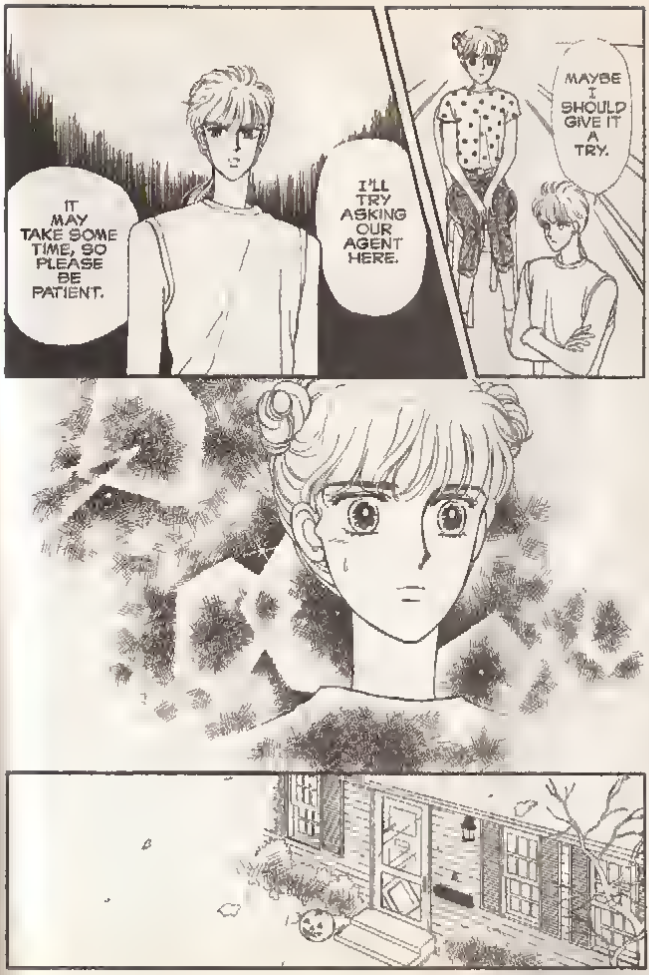
NO.
I WAS TOO ... NAIVE.

UH...
YOU DIDN'T MEET ROY?

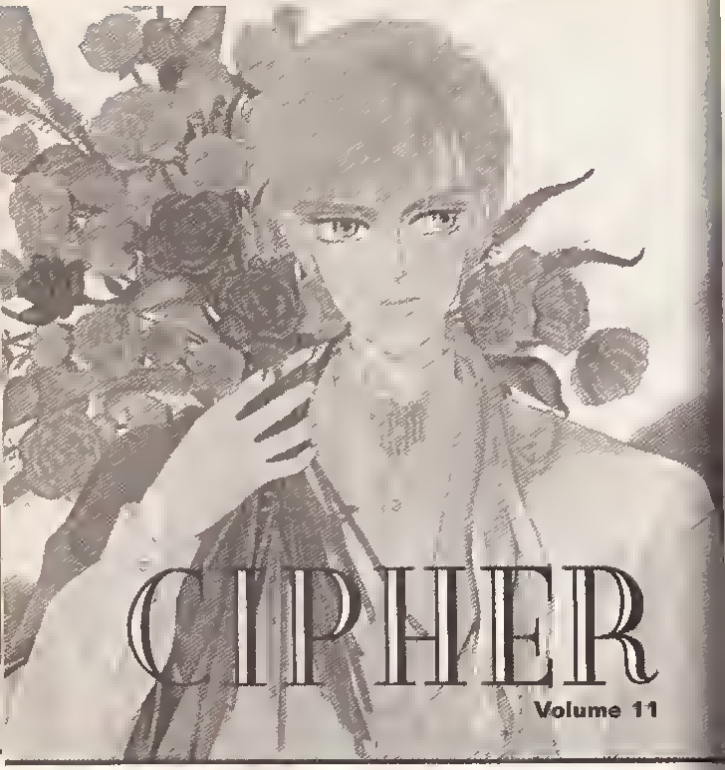

HMPH
MAYBE I SHOULD HIRE A PRIVATE DETECTIVE BEFORE THE NEXT TIME I GO TO L.A.

...


WHEREVER I WENT, THEY THOUGHT I WAS JUST SOME CRAZY FAN, AND TREATED ME LIKE DIRT.
HIS AGENCY WAS SURROUNDED BY STALKER FANS, SO I DIDN'T GO NEAR IT.
...


IT MAY TAKE SOME TIME, SO PLEASE BE PATIENT.
I'LL TRY ASKING OUR AGENT HERE.
MAYBE I SHOULD GIVE IT A TRY.

DON'T MISS THE FINAL VOLUME COMING THIS APRIL!



By Minako Narita. After Anise visits L.A., Cipher follows her back to New York and makes a startling admission. Cipher and Sive attempt to make peace with their estranged mother, while Sive finds closure over the death of Dana through helping Big Momma. Meanwhile, the twins' possible reunion isn't necessarily making their respective new roommates all that happy. And will Anise ever be more than just Cipher's friend?

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